FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 JULY 1983

PLO Affairs

The PLO delegation headed by Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi left Moscow on 16 July after receiving a Soviet affirmation of support for the PLO under Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's leadership and after obtaining "all that it was seeking and in a way more than it expected from the Kremlin leadership," according to Palestinian sources in Moscow cited by KUNA. Sources close to the PLO stressed that Qaddumi's delegation left Moscow with a "marvelous impression" of the Soviet Union's dedication to the Palestinian cause under the leadership of 'Arafat and nobody else, KUNA added. One member of Qaddumi's delegation — PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas — subsequently announced that the Soviet Union supports the unity of the PLO, according to KUNA. DFLP Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah, who recently visited the Soviet Union, announced in Damascus that the Soviet leaders will shortly take steps to solve the crisis within Fatah and settle the Palestinian-Syrian dispute, KUNA also noted.

Meanwhile, after holding lengthy talks in Baghdad with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn on the "plots" against the PLO, Yasir 'Arafat returned to Tunis where he discussed the PLO's problems with a Cuban envoy, according to Baghdad Voice of PLO radio. 'Arafat subsequently arrived in San'a' to brief YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih on the Palestinian situation, San'a' radio reported on 18 July.

In another development, 'Arafat revealed in an interview with the Amman paper *Sawt Ash-Sha'b* that he recently sent a message to Jordanian King Husayn asking permission to open a Palestinian research center in Amman following the closure of the center in Beirut.

Lebanon

Military, Security Situation — Israeli and Syrian forces exchanged fire in the Al-Biqa' area on 17 July, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. Earlier, seven IDF soldiers were wounded in an ambush south of Beirut, Jerusalem radio reported. The clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio said that Lebanese National Resistance fighters carried out the operation and that two Israelis were killed. The radio also reported that three collaborators with the Israelis were executed in 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp on 16 July: Beirut radio confirmed that three Palestinians in the camp were killed by gunmen. Meanwhile, Druze and Christian militia continued to exchange fire in the Ash-Shuf area throughout the weekend, despite several cease-fire agreements, according to reports by Beirut radio.

Earlier, the Lebanese Army and police clashed with gunmen and demonstrators in Beirut opposed to official attempts to restore a school building in Wadi Abu Jamil to its owners, Beirut radio reported. Three soldiers and several gunmen were killed in the fighting, according to an Army command statement carried by the radio. The Army took "full control" of the situation and detained a number of gunmen, the statement added. The Shi'ite Amal Movement held the government responsible for the incident and called for a general strike and the government's resignation, Voice of Arab Lebanon reported.

Political Developments — Beirut and Voice of Lebanon radios carried contradictory accounts of Foreign Minister Elie Salim's CBS television interview given during his current visit to the United States. While Beirut radio reported that Salim said neither Israel nor Syria plan to partition Lebanon, the Voice of Lebanon quoted Salim as saying that both Israel and Syria have "ambitions and interests in Lebanon" and "aim to partition it." In another development, Justice and Information Minister Roger Shaykhani expressed "surprise" at reports that President Amin al-Jumayyil has signed the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, according to Beirut radio. The reports were carried by a number of sources, including Jerusalem, Voice of Lebanon, and Damascus radios. A Damascus radio commentary warned that the Lebanese Government is becoming increasingly subjugated to Israel. The government's behavior has become difficult to separate from Israel's behavior, the radio said, and its "factional" forces called the Lebanese Army are in reality "Phalangist" forces. Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt, in an interview with the London magazine *Al-Majallah*, likewise deplored the transformation of President al-Jumayyil's government into a "Phalangist regime." Junblatt stressed that while he remains Syria's ally, he opposes giving Syria a security zone in Lebanon just as he opposes giving Israel such a zone.

Iraq

Iraq holds the international community, and the great powers in particular, as well as the United Nations and the Security Council, responsible for stopping the Iranian-Iraqi conflict and persuading Iran — and even forcing it — to stop the fighting, President Saddam Husayn declared in a 1968 revolution anniversary speech broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. Criticizing those who have courted the Iranian regime under the cover of mediation in order to achieve "certain future benefits," Saddam Husayn complained that "some states," toward which Iraq had adopted "sincere stands," did not reciprocate Iraq's sincerity in the circumstances of the Iranian-Iraqi war and preferred to adopt the method of "balancing and persuing temporary interests." He contended that Iraq's steadfastness against Iranian expansionism has prevented the entire Arab East from collapsing and called on the Arabs to give Iraq unlimited support within the framework of a comprehensive and long-term pan-Arab stand.

The Iraqi leader singled out Syria for particular criticism, asserting that Syria's support for Iran and its threats against the PLO have prejudiced its chances of receiving Arab assistance in the event of a war with Israel, giving others the excuse to stand idly by. The Iraqis told the Syrian president at the Fes summit that

Syria will need Iraqi support to fight Israel and must, therefore, preserve its relations with Iraq under all circumstances, Saddam Husayn noted. Iraq wants "serious methods" to achieve Arab solidarity, he said, and firmly supports the PLO and its legitimate leadership against any attempt to split, dominate, or weaken the organization.

Iran

In his Friday sermon given at Tehran University, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani touched on the Council of Experts inaugural session, calling it a "stabilizing step," Tehran radio reported. He also referred to the will prepared by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni which was entrusted to the council. The will reached the council in a "timely" manner, he said, and is one of the most "precious" heritages of the country.

Israel

Relations With Jordan — Jordanian King Husayn has informed Prime Minister Menahem Begin through two U.S. dignitaries that he may be willing to discuss and join the peace process, Jerusalem radio reported citing Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor. Acting Jordanian Prime Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah "categorically" denied the report, telling AFP that it is "false and baseless," Amman television stated. Meanwhile, Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres stated his belief that a settlement with an element of compromise is a viable approach toward the issue of peace in the region and that Israel should adopt a different approach in the territories in order to encourage King Husayn, Jerusalem radio related.

Iranian Arms Sales Denial — A Defense Ministry spokesman denied a *Time* magazine report that Israel is one of Iran's major arms suppliers, stating that Israel has not violated any agreement with the United States barring arms sales to Iran, according to Jerusalem television.

Libyan Involvement in Chad

All OAU member-states must actively assist the legitimate Government in Chad against the "mercenary armies" trained and supplied by Libya and provided with Libyan air cover, Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri declared in a statement to SUNA on 16 July. Chadian authorities subsequently presented a Libyan prisoner to journalists who stated that 1,500 Libyan soldiers are currently fighting alongside 3,000 mercenaries of different nationalities on behalf of former President Goukouni Oueddei, according to SUNA. He added that he had been strictly warned against revealing his nationality if captured, SUNA stated. Meanwhile, the "foreign minister" of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) denied that Goukouni's army had any mercenaries but alleged the Habre forces had an armored column manned by Sudanese, Egyptians, and Israelis, AFP noted.

In another development, a GUNT communique issued in Brussels announced that military attacks will not stop so long as foreign troops are in Chad, JANA stated. GUNT both agrees with and supports the OAU recommendations as a basis for negotiations, the communique added. The Chadian Government, meanwhile, rejected the OAU appeal for a cease-fire and announced its refusal to hold a dialogue with Goukouni, SUNA reported citing a Chadian official spokesman.

Syria-Turkey Border Incident

Two Turkish soldiers were killed near the Turkish-Syrian border by unidentified gunmen who opened fire on them from the Syrian side, a "reliable Turkish source" stated according to Radio Monte Carlo.

Gulf States

UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah announced that oil prices will remain at $29 a barrel and that there will be no change before the end of 1985, the London paper *Ash-Sharq Al-Awsat* reported. He added that the OPEC ministers meeting in Helsinki will do everything possible to defend the gains achieved at the March conference in London in stabilizing the market.

Afghanistan

DRA Government forces backed by Soviet MIG's launched a series of attacks against rebel forces in a valley south of Kabul 24 June-3 July, AFP reported citing a French medical student who witnessed the fighting. The student said that "more than 10 regiments, 2,000 military vehicles, and some 60 planes and helicopters" took part.

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'Arafat Interviewed on PLO Rift, Syria, Israe

JN161035 Amman Sawt Ash-Sha'b in Arabic 16 Jul 83 pp 6, 7

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat; identified by his non de guerre Abu 'Ammar, by *Sawt Ash-Sha'b* correspondent Ibrahim Sakkijha in Tunis on 14 July]

[Text] *Sawt Ash-Sha'b*: Brother Abu 'Ammar: First of all, we would like to thank you for giving us some of your valuable time, especially since we realize that these moments are ones you need to rest before carrying out more activities in the interest of the Palestinian cause. However, having you tell the Palestinian and Jordanian people the facts directly alleviates some of the sense of guilt that we have.

Brother Abu 'Ammar: What truth is there to all that has been said and is being said on the existence of a dissident movement within Fatah, the largest and most important faction in the Palestinian revolution since the 1948 tragedy?

Abu 'Ammar: The truth is that some of the brothers have created an internal problem. This is not the first time that such a thing has happened. I want to remind the brothers that there was a problem caused by Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna], and another one caused by Abu Yusuf al-Kayid. Such problems do occur in any revolution. However, the seriousness of what is taking place these days is that it took place after Beirut, while the Palestinian revolution is still healing its wounds and alleviating the sufferings of its people in Lebanon. As everyone knows, there are some 300,000 evacuees in the camps in Beirut and in all of Lebanon. Amidst these sufferings and problems, the internal problem occurred and was exploited by the Arab intelligence organs, particularly in Libya and Syria. Although we succeeded in ending the problems in the field, we were surprised that they received official and public support from Libya. Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi personally —and through his organs — continues to boast that his forces, which are present in Al-Biqa' and have not fired a single shot against the Israelis, had opened fire on our bases and revolutionaries who epitomize the most noble and honest manifestation in our Arab nation, and who upheld our Arab nation's dignity in the epic of Beirut and the war in the south.

We were also surprised to find that our camps, warehouses, military workshops, and offices in Damascus were handed over by the Syrian military police to what they had called the dissidents. These offices, warehouses, and workshops were under the protection of the Syrian military police. Everyone knows this. This was our agreement with them after our departure from Beirut. What is more serious is that Syrian military units and a Syrian brigade commander participated. I was informed of this officially by the Syrian forces' command in Al-Biqa'. When the brigade located in Al-Masna' moved and occupied Majdal 'Anjar, they sent me a cable which I still have in my possession stating that this was carried out on the brigade commander's own initiative. This took place while the Fatah Revolutionary Council was meeting in Damascus. We held this meeting in Damascus to show our good intentions, and that we sincerely desire to improve our relations with the Syrian brothers. While we were attending the Fatah Revolutionary Council meeting, we were surprised by the move of this brigade, which is located in Al-Masna', and by its occupation of Majdal 'Anjar.

It seems that those who issue communiques are not that intelligent because the communique carried on SANA said that the dissidents occupied Al-Masna' and the international road between Al-Masna' and Shtawrah. Every person in Lebanon and Syria, who passed through this area from 1976 onward, knows that Al-Masna' is the headquarters of the Syrian division there. Israel knows that it is the headquarters of the Syrian division there. The U.S. Sputnik knows that it is the headquarters of the Syrian division there. The Soviet Sputnik knows that it is the headquarters of the Syrian division there. How then did they control this area?

Everyone knows that the international highway between Shtawrah and Al-Masna' — and as far as the mountain — has been under Syrian control since 1976. Therefore, the communique carried by SANA was very serious. We were then surprised by the siege of the Syrian forces — Syrian and Libyan tanks — on our bases. When we inquired about this development, we were told that it was a military exercise. I asked: A military exercise around our bases only?

I also addressed myself to President al-Asad, especially since some of my brothers said that I should contact him. I addressed a long cable and a long letter to Al-Asad, urging him to intervene to stop the deterioration in the situation. When I did not obtain any answer, I went to Al-Biqa'. We were surprised to discover that As-Sa'iqah, which is a Syrian organization, was involved in the incident. I will give you the evidence. Here is a report on As-Sa'iqah operations signed by Salah ad-Din al-Ma'ani, who replaced Zuhayr Muhsin as military commander of the As-Sa'iqah forces. The report says that they were the ones who apprehended Lieutenant Colonel Nasir Yusuf. He was apprehended at the Syrian checkpoint. The report says: We apprehended Lt Col Nasir Yusuf. Our forces and their allies then took control on 27 and 28 June. We carried out mopping up operations through coordination with the comrades in the deterrent [ADF] forces, the PFLP-GC, and the Palestinian National Struggle Front. In my last speech to our heroic people in the occupied territory, I said, among other things, that I had appealed to President al-Asad to intervene to stop any deterioration in the situation.

We are against any battle or clashes between us and our brothers in the Syrian Army, and against any clashes between us and our brothers in the Libyan Army. We are also against Arab tribal feuds. But they are pushing us into these feuds. Then came the surprise. I was in Tripoli when the Syrian brothers called me to Syria. On the day of my arrival, I spent 3 hours with Syrian officials. (The invitation was from Dr Rif'at al-Asad). He told me that he and others had been authorized by the president to hold talks with me. Indeed, we achieved very positive results and we decided to follow up on the discussions. Therefore, I was surprised when I heard at 1100 hours the following day, while I was attending a meeting of the Palestinian leaders, that I was being considered persona non grata. That step lacked diplomatic tact. Yet when I was leaving Beirut, the Lebanese Army, the Lebanese prime minister, and another special envoy broke protocol [by seeing me off]. As everyone knew, there were problems between

myself and President Sarkis. Still, he sent two envoys and said: I am breaking protocol while you are making your triumphant exit from Beirut. I am breaking protocol by sending the prime minister and a Christian minister so both Muslim and Christian Lebanon will be there to see you off. The Syrian could have whispered in my ear or sent someone to tell me not to come back to Syria. I have come to Syria at the invitation of President al-Asad and met him with my brothers. Furthermore, I had come to Syria at the invitation of the brother Syrian officials.

(Here Brother Abu 'Ammar received a telephone call from Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] from Tripoli, so we stopped the recorder for a few minutes.)

Sawt Ash-Sha'b: Brother Abu 'Ammar: Before leaving Jordan, we became acquainted with a leaflet entitled "The General Command of the Al-'Asifah forces" directed in the form of a circular to "all the members and cadres of the organizational ranks". The circular talked about —among other things — a "democratic corrective movement along the path of the revolutionary course". They called for the implementation of "this movement issue" and said: "Our organization adheres to the ideology, organization, and the trend of the basic system and to the political program as a guide and inspiration to the movement's course". Therefore, they called themselves a "movement", a "corrective movement," and they have a "movement leadership". What does Abu 'Ammar have to say about all this?

(While we were still asking the question and before we completed it, Brother Abu 'Ammar interrupted us by saying:)

Abu 'Ammar: You remind us of the leaflets that are issued every now and then — Fatah and revolutionary Fatah, Fatah Revolutionary Council, and Fatah General Command. First of all, is there a general command without a commander in chief or deputy commander in chief? I beg your pardon — the Fatah movement General Command comprises three persons: your brother Abu Jihad, the deputy commander in chief; your brother Martyr Sa'd Sayil, the chief of staff; and your brother Abu 'Ammar, the commander in chief. Therefore, who has the right other than those three to issue a statement?

(When we reached the point in the question about the issue of the organization that adheres to the basic system and so forth, Abu 'Ammar interrupted us by saying:)

Abu 'Ammar: Allow me to correct you. Is it our organization that adheres to the instructions of Syrian intelligence, or the one that adheres to the instructions of Libyan intelligence? There is only one Fatah leadership, one Fatah Central Committee, one Fatah Revolutionary Council, and one Fatah Congress. The copying machines are numerous and we are used to leaflets that might be issued in the name of the Revolutionary Council on one occasion, and in the name of the corrective movement — revolutionary Fatah — or Arab Fatah on others. The most important thing is that this movement is too great to submit to the instructions of this intelligence officer or that. They know that Palestinian blood is more precious than anything.

(At this point Brother Abu 'Ammar had answered all of our question. We told him: You have preempted our question because our full question to you was: What does Abu 'Ammar have to say about all this?)

Abu 'Ammar: I say O Lord guide my people for they are ignorant. Our people inside and outside the occupied land have passed their judgment on them. These people will have no mercy. They still remember Abu Jaldah and Al-'Armit. We still talk about Abu Jaldah and Al-'Armit on our wedding occasions. These people do not forget their heroes, and they do not forget those who wrong them. In this land there are people of exceeding strength. The Koran said this. You can see how our people inside the occupied land gave their final say and decision. Perhaps it is a blessing in disguise. Those who are speaking about correction, who are they? What do you call a corrective movement on board a Syrian tank and protected by a Libyan tank to achieve democracy and democratic dialogue? A corrective movement to achieve democratic dialogue on board a Libyan tank assisted by a Syrian tank skidding on Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's money? This is a strange affair. What is hidden is probably worse.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b: We heard your historic speech in Yemen and were surprised when you referred in that speech to the relationship with Syria and the Syrian regime and said, quote: This relationship is stronger than the mountains you are now looking at (meaning the Yemeni mountains). I remember that a Sudanese journalist who was sitting next to me said he believed that Brother Abu 'Ammar was delaying "the bursting of the boil." This was the expression actually used by the Sudanese journalist. Later in your speech in Algiers, matters became clearer. It was clear in that speech that there was pressure from your opponents, who had objections to Al-Haj Isma'il [former commander of Palestinian forces in southern Lebanon]. This, in particular, was the subject they exploited. We now want, for our kinfolk in the occupied territory, an answer to this question. Since you saw, heard, and sensed all this talk, why did you not take the necessary measures against these people?

Abu 'Ammar: Democracy is firmly rooted in our movement, and membership is highly sanctified. This immunity can only be felt by those inside the movement. We proceed on the basis that slaves do not fight. Most Arab regimes and organs have tried to humble our people since 1948. What we have done with the help of our people and cadres is to regain the dignity of the Palestinian people. A basic part of this dignity is for the Palestiniansto enjoy human dignity and to live in a democratic atmosphere.

Once Caliph 'Umar ibn Al-Khattab said: Blessed is the one who rectifies my errors. It is difficult to take any remedial action in our movement without tangible proof. This is as far as internal affairs are concerned. This is also why we have not made any decision up to now. Doyou know, for instance, that Naji 'Allush has not yet been expelled from the movement and that he has only been frozen? The decision against 'Allush was only to freeze him. The only one who was expelled was Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna]. This explains the great immunity given to the membership in our movement. This is something of which we are proud. As I said, it is based on the principle that slaves do not fight. These free men fight over the radio as courageously as they fought inside Beaufort Castle, from which the last dispatch I received said: Abu 'Ammar, they will only pass on our dead bodies. Thus, when Begin arrived at the castle and inquired about

the number of prisoners, he was told that there were no prisoners or wounded. There were only 37 martyrs. Begin was shocked when he heard this, because his losses, which he personally admitted, were 200 dead. This was in Beaufort Caste alone.

As far as external affairs are concerned, we do not talk about them. This is because I am determined not to start a battle with the Arabs. I said this in Fes. Many of those present in Fes thought that I would turn the tables around. Even some of my brothers believed that I should have started a battle in Fes. What benefit would our people have gained from a defamation campaign? Therefore, I said in my speech: I did not come to rebuke or make enemies, but to cooperate with you in building an Arab strategy to confront the danger threatening our Arab nation. I told them that the Arabs had lost a good opportunity when the Palestinians engaged three quarters of the Israeli army. It was indeed a good opportunity, because never before had Israel thrown into battle three quarters of its ground forces and all its navaland air forces. What was left?

'Abd an-Nasir once told me: Abu 'Ammar, I wish you could engage one Israeli brigade only. In 1982, the Lebanese-Palestinian Joint Forces engaged three quarters of the Israeli army for 88 days. I told the Arabs in Fes: We lost an opportunity to liberate Jerusalem, but this opportunity still exists by launching a battle from Al-Biqa'. I did not expect such a campaign against me, because I did not want Arab tribal feuds. We have decided to avoid such feuds. Therefore, I say: Please, please stop butchering the Palestinians. Unfortunately, a new Tal az-Za'tar [massacre] is being prepared for the Palestinians in Al-Biqa'. After this massacre, they will consider setting up another PLO. O God, be my witness for I have conveyed the message. But our people are gigantic in their revolutionary sense and national pride. Their sense of patriotism has enabled them to foresee what was coming, so they rose indignantly inside and outside the occupied territory.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b: Aside from the topics dealing with Fatah, the PLO, and the internecine fighting, I would like to say that Abu 'Ammar is admired by all honest people in the world who saw him on television confronting the enemy's siege of West Beirut, making statements, always smiling, ridiculing the invaders and defying them. The steadfastness of Abu 'Ammar and his hero brothers has become a legend. What does Abu 'Ammar have to say while we are coming close to the first anniversary of the Beirut siege, which on one hand was a shameful event, and on the other a heroic one?

Abu 'Ammar: Fain would they extinguish God's light with their mouths, but God will not allow but that His light should be perfected, even though the unbelievers may detest it. [Koranic verse]

Sawt Ash-Sha'b: Where does the PLO now stand, and are we — as the rumors say — at the threshold of a Palestinian government-in-exile?

Abu 'Ammar: The issue of a government is an old issue. Many Arab brothers have talked to me about this; many friends from the Socialist countries, and many of my Palestinian brothers as well. My reply is very simple: This topic will be discussed by the Palestinian leadership when it senses that it may push our cause even one step forward. The leadership will meet. If a decision by the PLO Executive Committee is sufficient, then this will be it. But if the Executive Committee feels that this issue must be submitted to the PNC, then it will be submitted to the PNC. This issue will be decided by the Palestinian leadership and by Palestinian legitimacy, which will announce it when it deems it suitable or in the Palestinian people's interest.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b: Does this mean that there is no Palestinian government in the wings?

Abu 'Ammar: So far, there is nothing of the sort. This topic is old, yet new, and is always under discussion.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b: Some say that a government-in-exile would be the solution to the crisis?

Abu 'Ammar: I do not consider it as a crisis in the true sense of the word. I consider it as one of the problems that is facing the Palestinian revolution. There is a decision to exterminate the Palestinian revolution, but who can exterminate the Palestinian revolution? It is one of many problems, but one that cannot be linked to the current problems. Some brothers and friends believe that to bolster the Palestinian struggle in the future it may be possible to achieve a qualitative leap in political action similar to what occurred to the Algerian people and the brothers in Zimbabwe and Vietnam, when they decided to form a government. At one period of time or another, revolutions always form such governments.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b: Since we have mentioned the PNC, it has been reported that it was dissolved and reconstituted. Has this taken place?

Abu 'Ammar: No. The PNC, which convened in Algiers, is a new national council that still has 3 years in office. Brother Shafiq, (Shafiq al-Hut, head of the PLO mission in Lebanon, was attending this meeting) you know this better than me. The members of the PNC were increased from 292 to 386 members.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b: And the Central Council?

Abu 'Ammar: The Central Council was formed of 81 members at the last meeting of the [PLO] Executive Committee in Tunis but, so far, it held no meeting. Some new members have replaced some martyrs, such as Dr 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Kayyali and Faruq Al-Husayni. Others have also joined the Central Council bringing the total number of its members from 69 to 81.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b: Is it true that a meeting was held recently between you and the "millionaires" of the Palestinian people?

Abu 'Ammar: "The Palestinian people's millionaires?" (Abu 'Ammar says this with astonishment) Let's hope that this will become a reality. What took place was a meeting of Palestinian economic sectors, including 'Abd al-Hamid Shuman, whom I asked to convey a message to His Majesty King Husayn in which I asked his majesty to give his permission for opening the Palestinian Research Center in Amman after it was closed in Beirut by the Lebanese authorities.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b: What does Abu 'Ammar have to say on the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship? And why were talks between the Jordanian and Palestinian delegations suspended?

Abu 'Ammar: For my part, I have not suspended the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue. Everyone remembers that less than 48 hours after the issuance of the Jordanian communique I was in Sweden where I announced in a press interview that I am still leaving the door open for this dialogue. At the same time, we in the [PLO] Executive Committee have made a decision for the continuation of the work of the joint committees. As you know, these joint committees continue to work. Our hearts and minds are open to the continuation of this Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue at any level wished by the brothers.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b: What is your opinion of the Jordanian stand on the crisis with the Syrian regime?

Abu 'Ammar: The truth is that it is a fraternal and sympathetic stand, and has contributed in exposing all that took place, as it had faithfully reported the incidents and the events. It is true that at the beginning and before matters were made clear, it highlighted the difference as being a difference among Palestinians. However, after things became clear, everything changed.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b: Brother Abu 'Ammar: Do you believe that Jordanian- Palestinian relations will improve in light of the recent campaign by the Syrian regime against Jordan?

Abu 'Ammar: I do not link the Syrian relation [as published]. I wish that Jordanian-Syrian relations would improve. I also wish that Iraqi-Syrian relations would improve, and also Syria-Palestinian relations. I struggle for improving these relations because in the absence of this, there will be no eastern front, and without this we shall be unable to confront the Zionist enemy.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b: Abu 'Ammar: This question may seem strange to you. Brother Abu 'Ammar, who are you?

Abu 'Ammar: I am a fighter in the ranks of the Palestinian revolution.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b: Is your name Yasir 'Arafat?

Abu 'Ammar: This is the name by which I have been known since my days as a student.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b: Where are you from?

Abu 'Ammar: From the core of the Palestinian people.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b: Where have you studied?

Abu 'Ammar: Secondary education and university in Egypt. (A discussion on the importance and relevance of these questions took place here and Abu 'Ammar was convinced of the need to continue answering them)

Sawt Ash-Sha'b: Are you from Jerusalem, Gaza, or from Egypt?

Abu 'Ammar: My father was from Gaza, and my mother from Jerusalem, from the Abu As-Su'ud family.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b: All peoples usually sing the praises of the leaders of revolutions and their herosim. (Abu 'Ammar interrupts by saying: I have not performed any heroic feats) Will you tell us about the man who leads the Palestinian revolution, whose name is known to everybody, but about whom the Palestinians know very little. Once again, Abu 'Ammar: Who are you?

Abu 'Ammar: I am a fighter in the Palestinian revolution and the son of this people. I hope that you will not speak about heroic deeds as the only heroic deed is martyrdom.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b: Yasir 'Arafat, Abu 'Ammar, the leader of the Palestinian revolution, PLO Executive Committee chairman, and the leader of Fatah: What do you wish to tell the Palestinian people, the Arab nation, the Zionist enemy, and the world?

Abu 'Ammar: I want to tell them one thing. As I said before the war, we are entering into a dark tunnel. This tunnel began on 4 June 1982, and we are still in this tunnel. I see, however, a glimmer of light at the end of the tunnel. With the help of this light, I can see the minarets and churches in Jerusalem. And to enter your temple as they had entered it before, and to visit with destruction all that fell into their power. [Koranic verse]

'Arafat Said Willing To Talk With Syria

LD161547 Hamburg DPA in German 1421 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Hamburg, 16 Jul (DPA) — PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, who was expelled from Syria on 23 June, has said that he is prepared to eat humble pie and go to Damascus to seek new negotiations with the Syrians.

In an interview to be published in Monday's edition of the Hamburg news magazine *Der Spiegel*, 'Arafat states that he must cooperate "with Syria, Jordan, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia," and "also with Egypt." He said his consternation at his dramatic and — for him — completely unexpected expulsion from Syria was all the greater because in the north Lebanon town of Tripoli he had been invited by a Syrian envoy to Damascus for talks "with top Syrian figures." 'Arafat said: "We negotiated for over 3 hours, and at the end agreed to continue our negotiations." In the *Spiegel* interview,'Arafat indirectly confirmed that on the night prior to his expulsion he had avoided an assassination attempt on Syria soil "through a delay."

In the interview 'Arafat avoided direct attacks on Syria and his rivals in Fatah. The leader of the Fatah rebels, Sa'id Musa, was like "a son who has gone astray," and George Habash was my comrade-in-arms" whom "I respect and value." There was "neither rebellion nor a split in Fatah," but "an Arab intervention under a Palestinian guise." "But we do not take orders from any Arab secret service... Our Palestinian legitimacy is unassailable," 'Arafat said in the *Spiegel* talk.

'Arafat outlined as a way out of the crisis three proposals that he has submitted to the Arab mediating committee: 1) an immediate cease-fire under Arab control; 2) negotiations with Syria on all

contentious issues; 3) withdrawal from the Al-Biqa' valley to Tripoli in order to defuse tensions and avoid a "massacre of my fighters." However from here he could only withdraw toward the Mediterranean.

He had "not for a moment" had any doubt about his aim to return to Jerusalem. But he would have to act as a "pragmatist" and he regarded the "Fes plan" negotiated at the Arab summit in 1982 as the only basis for a negotiated settlement. The negotiations with Jordan's King Husayn had failed because Husayn had insisted on including President Reagan's Middle East peace plan. "The door is still open and our dialogue has not broken off."

'Arafat Denies Soviets Exploiting PLO Split

AU161928 Rome ANSA in English 1918 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] [ANSA] — Rome, July 16 — Palestinian Liberation Organization Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has denied that the Soviet Union wants to exploit the internal crisis in the PLO to seek to gain new leverage in the Middle East. 'Arafat made the denial in an interview with the Italian weekly *"L'espresso"*.

"This is foolishness, journalists' speculation", 'Arafat said. "The Soviet Union has never 'used' the Palestinian problem and I do not think it can or wants to because Soviet officials know well that we Palestinians will never allow it. Not by the Soviet Union or by any other power".

'Arafat justified the Soviet Union's passivity towards Palestinians during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon with the existence of the "Yalta agreements", adding that the responsibilities of Arab nations for what is happening with the Fatah grouping are "many, very many". "Many Arab nations are taking advantage of our weakness to try to impose their will over us, thereby making even more critical our situation".

According to 'Arafat, the PLO dialogue with Jordan's King Husayn "has not failed," but is simply deadlocked because the king has "forgotten" that it was to have been based on the peace plan approved at the Fes Arab summit last year.

The PLO leader also denied that he has begun secret negotiations with Israel.

'Arafat Concludes Visit to Iraq; Returns to Tunis

Report on Baghdad Talks

JN161635 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar left Baghdad today after a 2-day visit. Brother Abu 'Ammar and his delegation held talks with senior officials in fraternal Iraq led by President Saddam Husayn; Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister; and Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. The talks, which were held in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and cordiality, dealt with the various Palestinian and Arab issues and their latest developments.

Before leaving Baghdad today, Brother Abu 'Ammar laid a wreath on the unknown soldier's monument.

Brother Abu 'Ammar was seen off at the airport by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; the chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry; head and members of the Liberation Movements' bureau at the national command [of the Iraqi Ba'th Party]; Brother 'Azzam al-Ahmad, PLO representative in Baghdad; and Lieutenant Colonel Fayiz Zaydan, commander of the Palestinian Air Force.

Arrival in Tunis

JN161910 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1900 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Excerpt] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Tunis from Baghdad today at the end of a 3-day visit to Iraq, during which Abu 'Ammar held talks with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz on the situation in the Arab world and the intra-Fatah differences.

Meets With Cuban Envoy

GF170632 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0550 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Tunis, 17 Jul (WAKH) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met here yesterday with Levi Farah, the special envoy of Cuban President Fidel Castro. The meeting was attended by PLO Executive Committee Member Abu Mazin and PLO representative in Tunis Hakam Bal'awi.

During the meeting, they discussed the results of the efforts currently being undertaken by Cuba to solve the current crisis between Syria and the PLO. It was reported that 'Arafat gave the Cuban envoy a message for President Castro dealing with the role undertaken by Cuba to end the current crisis.

Second Meeting With Envoy

JN171632 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar met for the second time in Tunis today with Levi Farah, the Cuban special envoy and minister of state.

Our correspondent reported that the meeting dealt with the latest developments in the situation in the Palestinian arena and the means of settling the problem. He said that Brother Abu 'Ammar asked the Cuban envoy to convey a message to Cuban President Fidel Castro dealing with the latest development in the current situation in the Palestinian and Arab arenas.

PLO Delegation Winding Up Moscow Visit

USSR Said Remaining Neutral

JN161330 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, will by this weekend conclude a visit of several days to Moscow without getting a Soviet promise to mediate between the warring Palestinian factions or between the PLO and Syria. This has been noted by the diplomatic analysts in the Soviet capital.

It has been learned from an Arab diplomatic source that Soviet officials were displeased with Yasir 'Arafat's hesitation to go to Moscow despite the urgent invitation addressed to him. In this regard, a semi-official Soviet source hinted that at present, the Kremlin is determined to maintain its neutral stand on the conflict between its two allies; namely, Yasir 'Arafat and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

Delegation Claims Soviet Support

LD161933 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1756 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow 16 Jul (KUNA) — The PLO delegation led by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the Political Department, left here today after winning, according to reliable Palestinian sources, the support of the Soviet Union for the PLO under the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat. The delegation had talks described as intense and very important with the Soviet leadership, and notably with the Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko.

KUNA has learned from these sources that the Palestinian delegation placed before the Soviet leadership the most important problems which have emerged in the situation in the Middle East, especially the acute differences which occured between the organization and Syria, and the rift within the Fatah organization, the largest unit of the Palestinian resistance.

The sources stressed that the delegation had been scheduled to leave after a day or two. However, the visit was extended because the organization's delegation wanted clear and frank answers from the Soviet leadership on some questions it had. They added that the delegation "was able to get all that it was seeking, and in a way more than it expected from the Kremlin leadership." The sources added that the Soviet Union affirmed to Mr Qaddumi "its stand on the side of the PLO under 'Arafat's leadership." The Soviet leadership has also stressed that it will do its utmost to solve all the differences between Syria and the PLO and as quick as possible.

Sources close to the agency said "the Soviet Union was in continuous contact with Syria during the visit of the Palestinian delegation in Moscow." It is probable that Moscow will help in solving the existing differences within Fatah in addition to standing on the side of the Palestinian national liberation movement's march and assisting in the return to the ancestral land and the setting-up of its independent state.

Other agency sources have confirmed that "the Soviet Union will intensify its defensive military assistance to each of the PLO and Syrian forces in Al-Biqa' to confront the Israeli-American aggression againt the Arab Palestinian people and the rest of the Arab people." Mr 'Arafat was scheduled to visit Moscow in case the Palestinian-Soviet talks were impeded. However, the talks proceded in the best possible way. Therefore, the delegation left Moscow very optimistic over the Soviet Union's fresh assistance. Hence, there is no urgency about 'Arafat's visit at the present time. On the other hand, these sources stressed that "'Arafat might pay an official visit to Moscow after being briefed on the talks carried out by the organization's delegation with the Kremlin leadership."

Sources close to the PLO stressed that "the delegation left Moscow with a marvelous impression of Moscow's dedication to the Palestinian issue under the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat and nobody else." However, Moscow has asked the Palestinian delegation to try to solve the intra-Fatah differences and those between the PLO and Syria by peaceful democratic means. It added that "the Soviet Union as before pledges that it never has and will never stop aiding the organization and the Arab Palestinian people militarily, materially, and morally until the recovery of the last inch of Arab territory occupied by Israel and its ally America."

PLO Mediation Committee Achieves 'Some Progress'

LD171925 Kuwait KUNA in English 1733 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Excerpts] Damascus, July 17 (KUNA) — A six-man committee which is mediating in the internal conflict overwhelming the mainstream Palestinian commando movement Al-Fatah has achieved "some progress" in its effort, a ranking Palestinian official said here Sunday.

'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, a member of the Palestinian mediation team sponsored by the Palestine Liberation Organization's Executive Committee, said the body has succeeded in establishing a firm cease-fire between the two rival factions of Al-Fatah. Abu Mayzar, who also is a member of the Executive Committee, said the parties concerned have agreed to limit the conflict within Al-Fatah and prevent its spread to other groups of the eight-member PLO.

Abu Mayzar said all concerned parties have expressed keeness on preserving the PLO unity and its recognized role as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He did not elaborate on the committee's efforts to patch up differences between Syria and 'Arafat who was expelled from Damascus last June 24.

Meanwhile, the breakaways reiterated their charge that 'Arafat is trying to pull out the Palestinian fighters from Lebanon.

Fatah Dissidents Accused of Prior 'Agreement'

JN171000 Amman Ar-Ra'y in Arabic 17 Jul 83 pp 1,20

[Lamis Anduni's dispatch]

[Text] Tripoli, Lebanon — A high-ranking Palestinian official has revealed that an agreement was signed prior to the munity

which took place within the Fatah movement on 9 May between the mutineers and an Arab country.

The official, who preferred not to disclose his identity, was speaking during an open meeting in Baddawi camp the night before yesterday. The meeting was attended by Abu Jihad, Abu al-Hawl [Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid], and Abu Mahir [Muhammad Ghunaym]. Ghunaym and 'Abd al-Hamid are members of the Fatah Central Committee. The Palestinian official said that the 30-point agreement, which contained the mutineers' demands, was presented to an Arab regime, who promised to extend support for the movement under certain conditions. That regime asked the mutineers' leader not to submit to pressures by any Palestinian, Arab, or international side which would seek to end the mutiny. The Palestinian official added that the mutineers were promised full support under the condition that they remain adamant in their mutiny. The official did not explain the meaning of this, although we can understand that it is a form of control over the movement.

Abu Mahir accused the mutineers of being tools to kill the revolution's thought in the Palestinians' hearts. He said that the mutineers used reformation as a cover for their real intentions, and described them as opportunists and profiteers. Abu Mahir said that the attempts to create a split within Fatah came in response to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' call on the Arab states to withdraw their recognition of the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He added that the conspiracy against Fatah and the PLO seeks to expel the PLO's forces from Al-Biqa' in order to weaken the resistance against the Israeli occupation of Lebanon and the Israeli-Lebanese agreement.

Abu al-Hawl said that the revolution's spirit among the Fatah forces springs from the Palestinians' determination to safeguard the independence of the Palestinian decisionmaking. He accused certain Arab regimes of attempting to contain the Palestinian decisionmaking and to impose a trusteeship on the PLO. The PLO has adopted the slogan of armed struggle against the Israeli occupation [as received]. This strategy contradicts the interests of some Arab regimes.

Abu al-Hawl added: They want us to relinquish armed struggle. He accused the mutineers of practicing blackmail and terrorism to force the citizens in the refugee camps to join their movement.

Sa'id Musa on Rebels' Goals, Financial Aid

LD161122 Kuwait KUNA in English 1013 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Kuwait, July 16 (KUNA) — Fatah rebel leader Colonel Sa'id Musa (Abu Musa) said the mutiny in the Fatah movement is receiving financial aid from Arab, Islamic, and friendly socialist countries. In an interview with daily *"Kuwait Times"* newspaper, Abu Musa said the rebels are not to be put under pressure by any Arab or friendly countries to end the mutiny against the Palestine Liberation Organization under Chairman Yasir 'Arafat before realizing their objectives."

The objectives are: collective leadership, rejection of U.S. peace plans, basic reforms, and adherence to the PLO's and Fatah's constitutions he told the English language daily. Abu Musa commented that Israel's presence in the south is to be extended, which means "more responsibilities for the commando movement."

On 'Arafat's idea to create a government-in-exile, the rebel leader pledged to "bury" the idea and said that "the only way for the Palestinians to regain their rights was to fight more and talk less." The reconciliation committee had failed to convince the PLO leader that the mutiny was an internal affair,while he insisted that Syrians and Libyans are steering it, Abu Musa concluded.

Dissidents Warn 'Arafat Soldiers To Surrender

NC161534 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] The Abu Musa group today warned 'Arafat's armed men in Jdita and Jalala to surrender or else the mutineers will storm the Fatah positions.

In the meantime, a state of alert has been declared in the pro-'Arafat positions in R'it and Dayr al-Ghazal. Following a meeting at a Fatah center in Ta'lbaya, it has been decided to tighten observation of the roads and of Palestinians supporting Abu Musa.

DFLP's Nayif Hawatimah Comments on PLO, Syria

LD161701 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1505 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Damascus, 16 Jul (KUNA) — Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), said that the Soviet leadership will embark soon on a series of initiatives and new steps "that could contribute effectively toward solving the Fatah crisis and setting the differences between the Syrian and the Palestinian leaderships." Hawatimah, who returned yesterday to Damascus from Aden after leading a DFLP delegation to the USSR and the PDRY, said in an interview with KUNA: "The Soviet leadership has defined its attitude clearly in relation to all that is happening inside Fatah, and the situation in the Palestinian arena."

He said that the Soviet leadership "has informed the Palestinian leadership that it is against fighting among the brothers-in-arms and the dismembering of the Palestinian resistance and the PLO, and is working tirelessly to put an end to the fighting, to protect Palestinian unity, and to direct all the Palestinian rifles at the chest of the Zionist enemy. It condemned every drop of Palestinian blood not shed in fighting the Zionist occupiers." Hawatimah pointed out that the Soviet leadership has confirmed that the Palestinian revolution — like all national liberation movements — is going through contradictions because it combines different ideological and political currents that meet together on the national objective of liberation and independence and disagree on the political tactics, organization, and leadership."

Hawatimah said that in the opinion of the Soviet leadership, all these problems should be solved "on the basis of the common

denominator represented in the resolutions of the National Council in its latest session in Algiers. There is a need to solve all the differences through democratic dialogue without any violence and fighting. The criterion for solidarity with the Palestinian people is standing firm by its side in its struggle for the construction of its independent state, and protection of the unity of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Any toying with thsee two issues indicates to you that those who are toying with them are opening the bridges leading to the American solutions, which are opposed to the rights of the Palestinian people."

He went on to say that this Soviet stance will result in a series of new steps within the next few days and weeks aimed at solving the crisis in Fatah, and aimed at Fatah and Palestinian relations with Syria within the framework that secures the unity of the forward Palestinian-Syrian-Lebanese national front against the Israeli occupation, the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, and the Reagan plan. The Soviet leadership will embark on a series of initiatives in this direction based on the firm Soviet attitude against fighting among the brothers-in-arms and its eagerness to protect the unity of Fatah, the Palestinian resistance, and the PLO."

Nayif Hawatimah added that the Soviet leadership "looks with bitterness at the attempts to dismember the Palestinian arena and considers such attempts as a direct service to the expansionist U.S.-Israeli plan in the Middle East. The previous Soviet efforts with the Syrian and Palestinian leadership will take advanced and new forms in the coming period in order to settle the differences in Fatah, and between Yasir 'Arafat and the Syrian leadership."

On the Palestinian role in solving the conflict within Fatah and between the Syrian and Palestinian leadership, Hawatimah said that the PFLP, the DFLP, and the Palestine Liberation Front "are struggling to prevent matters reaching a deadlock. We are also working to consolidate the cease-fire between the two conflicting parties, and solve differences through dialogue and democratic reform in accordance with the PLO's organizational program. We are also working to end individual and factional practices, and to spread democracy in Palestinian internal relations."

He added that the first step toward the Palestinian solution "stipulates the halting of all forms of intrafighting and violence between the two sides in Fatah and in the Palestinian arena, as well as ending all forms of tension arising among the revolutionary detachments. He spoke of "certain attempts made by some of the resistance groups to spread the conflict on the entire level of the Palestinian arena." He called for stopping political and information tirades between the two sides in Fatah, and between Fatah and Syria. Should the first step succeed, Hawatimah said, the road "would be reopened for a genuine discussion on the question of democratic reform within Fatah and between the various revolutionary groups and PLO bodies."

On the question of the PNC meeting to consider the Palestinian-Palestinian and Palestinian-Syrian conflicts, Hawatimah said "It is not on the agenda of either the revolution or the PLO to call for a meeting of the PNC. The last session of the PNC in Algiers had reached a number of political solutions for the current issues on the Palestinian and Arab arenas. Organizational solutions have also been reached for wide-scale democratic reform in the organization's institutions. The problem is that the monopolist trend within the organization had ignored all these decisions and this led to the dramatic Fatah crisis, which threatens a shake-up that will affect all. What is at stake is the implementation of the PNC resolutions adopted at the meeting in Algiers, and not the convocation of a new PNC session."

Hawatimah said that "the implementation of the PNC resolutions depends on the solution of the current crisis within Fatah." The PNC is not the venue for solving this crisis, he said. The way to solve it lies in holding a dialogue between both factions of Fatah and the Palestinian revolution detachments." He called on all those who call for the creation of a Palestinian state in exile to (?refrain from) such calls because all they do is widen the rift within the Palestinian ranks and shatter them even further."

The question at stake, he said, is how to stop the fighting and begin a dialogue to pave the way for implementing the organization's reform program throughout all its institutions. "Concerning arousing a storm about a government in exile," he said, "this will only help at this particular time to increase tension in the Palestinian arena and pour oil on the fire of the shattering of Palestinian national unity."

Replying to another question, Hawatimah said that the Palestinian revolution forces will remain in the Al-Biqa', "and our resistance to occupation will continue. Indeed, we will intensify our military operations within the enemy ranks and behind them. All the honorable forces of our Arab nation should work hard to use the Al-Biqa' as a staunch base for continuing the fighting against the Zionist enemy so that Israeli forces willwithdraw unconditionally from Lebanon." He said that we in the DFLP "are against any concentration of Palestinian forces away from the frontlines with the enemy."

Regarding the appointment of Colonel Abu Musa, leader of the opposition wing in Fatah and commander of Palestinian forces in the Al-Biqa', Hawatimah said that any Fatah appointments are an "internal matter" and any measures that affect the resistance as a whole must go through the PLO Executive Committee and the Supreme Military Council of the forces of the revolution. The autocratic decisionmaking [words indistinct] groups of the revolution have suffered from monopolization and autocracy. One who calls for democratic reform should respect the laws of this reform, and the first law is to end the policy of haughtiness [ar istikbar] and dealing with the groups of the resistance from above."

Concerning the ratification by President al-Jumayyil of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, he said that the signing by President al-Jumayyil "is a brazen challenge to the masses of Lebanon, its honest forces, the Palestinian revolution, Syria, and the Arab states that have rejected the agreement. It is also a flagrant scorning of the resolutions of the Arab summits rejecting the signing of any separate deal with the enemy." Nayif Hawatimah expects that the Lebanon president's signature will bear "new, huge dangers of two kinds: new military operations by

Israel against the Palestinian revolution, Syria, and the Lebanese nationalist forces that reject the imposition of the agreement, and the use of the agreement as a bridge for the opening the Palestine problem to Israel and Jordan behind the backs of the PLO and the Arab nation on the basis of the Reagan plan." He said: "Here comes the need to end the fighting among the brothers-in-arms and solve the Fatah crisis so that the resistance may rise in the face of the dangers of the Reagan plan, whose file will be opened in the next few weeks and months with a hot military and political aggressive policy."

More Operations Against Israeli Forces Reported
JN171700 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] A group of the joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces have carried out an attack with machineguns and rockets against a Zionist military patrol near 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp in southern Lebanon. Several members of the Zionist patrol were killed or wounded in the attack.

Reports from southern Lebanon say that the invasion forces immediately combed the area extensively in search of the perpetrators of the daring operation who returned safely to base.

Another group of the joint forces attacked a Zionist military position near Suq al-Gharb in eastern Beirut. The machinegun attack killed or wounded several Zionist soldiers. A Zionist spokesman admitted the operation, claiming that two soldiers were critically wounded.

KUWAIT

Foreign Minister Calls for Arab Solidarity

GF171022 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0845 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Kuwait, 17 Jul (WAKH) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister, foreign affairs minister, and information minister, has called on the Arab countries to brush aside their marginal differences and to ensure solidarity.

In a statement published today in the Kuwaiti papers, *Al-Qabas* and *Ar-Ra'y Al-'Amm*, Shaykh as-Sabah said that the Arab nation is experiencing hard and difficult conditions which require the elimination of marginal differences to divert efforts in the direction of tackling basic Arab issues. He added that solidarity is the basis for our unity and for our confrontation with the Zionist enemy. He pointed out that this requires positive and clear views, which are essential to realizing the challenges that face us, the Arab nation, from various directions.

Shaykh as-Sabah reiterated the need to ensure the unity and solidarity of the Palestinian revolution to confront the Zionist enemy particularly under the current circumstances. He said: The dispersion of the Palestinian ranks is regrettable because it has had negative effects on the central issue and the Palestinian issue. He pointed out the importance of Palestinian decisionmaking, stressing that what is more important than this is for this decisionmaking to be independent and firm so as to be strong and influential over the international arena.

Parliamentary Delegation Departs for UK, USSR

LD171152 Kuwait KUNA in English 1008 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Kuwait, July 17 (KUNA) — National assembly Speaker Muhammad Yusuf al-'Adasani left here Sunday for London on a few days private visit before proceeding [to] Moscow on an official visit on July 25.

Al-'Adasani who will be leading a parliamentarian delegation at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, will hold talks on enhancing Kuwaiti-Soviet cooperation and the current situation in the Gulf and Middle East.

The parliamentarian delegation includes National Assembly members Dr. Nasir Sarkhu, 'Adnan 'Abd as-Samid, Nayif Abu Ramayah, Muhammad ar-Rashid and the assembly secretary general, 'Abd al-Latif al-Falij, in addition to other assembly staff.

Chief of Staff To Visit Bulgaria 26 July

LD171815 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1636 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Kuwait, 17 Jul (KUNA) — It was announced here today that Lieutenant General 'Abdallah Faraj al-Ghanim, Kuwaiti chief of the general staff, will begin an official visit to Bulgaria next Tuesday at the invitation of Bulgarian Chief of Staff Atanas Semerdzhiev.

A statement from the Directorate of Moral Guidance and General Relations of the Army General Staff Command said that Lt Gen al-Ghanim will be accompanied by a high-level military delegation. The statement also added that Lt Gen al-Ghanim will hold talks with Semerdzhiev during his visit on strengthening military cooperation between the two countries. It pointed out that the Kuwaiti military commander will attend a military exercise in which various up-to-date Bulgarian weapons will be used. He will also visit the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier where he will place a bouquet of flowers in the name of the Kuwaiti Army.

Lt Gen Al-Ghanim paid an official visit to Hungary last May.

The statement said that Lt Gen al-Ghanim's visit to Bulgaria embodied the good relations between the two countries. It said that there is a mutual desire in the two countries to cooperate and contribute to strengthening relations between them. Kuwait is the only country among the six GCC countries that has established relations with countries in the socialist bloc. The other five countries are Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, UAE, and Oman.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Receives Visiting Guinean President

LD172236 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2146 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Jidda, 17 Jul (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz met at 2330 with His Excellency President Ahmed Sekou Toure, who is on a visit to the Kingdom.

The meeting, which was held at the Royal Palace in Jidda, was attended on the Saudi side, by Foreign Minister His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Minister of Planning His Excellency Hisham Nazir, and Minister of Information His Excellency 'Ali ash-Sha'ir; and on the Guinean side by Foreign Minister Abdoulaye Toure, Minister of Information and Ideology Sekou Kaba, and Minister of Agro-Pastoral Farms and Agricultural Cooperatives Senainon Behanzin.

UAE

Syria's Khaddam Arrives With Message 17 July

GF171232 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1205 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 17 Jul (WAKH) — Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam arrived in Abu Dhabi today on a short visit to the UAE beginning a tour of a number of Arab countries.

During his visit, Khaddam will convey a message to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on the current Arab situation and issues of common interest. He will also hold talks with UAE officials on the current Arab situation in view of the current developments particularly on the Lebanese and Palestinian arenas.

Delivers Message, Departs
GF171920 Doha QNA in Arabic 1910 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 17 Jul (QNA) — Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz Khaddam left Abu Dhabi for Damascus this evening after a short visit during which he conveyed a message from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan dealing with the current Arab situation and bilateral relations.

21 Iranians Arrested for Illegal Entry
GF171150 Doha QNA in Arabic 1110 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 17 Jul (QNA) — The UAE paper *Al-Ittihad* has reported that UAE security authorities arrested 21 Iranians who tried to enter the UAE illegally during the 'Id al-Fitr holiday. The paper added that three launches were used in the process of smuggling the Iranians onto the coasts of Ra's al-Khaymah.

The paper indicated that according to UAE regulations, the owners of the launches and the people who were smuggled in will stand trial on charges of entering the country illegally by sea.

YAR

'Arafat Arrives on Official Visit 18 July
GF180500 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, arrived in San'a' this morning on an official visit to our country, during which he will meet with Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, and with the senior officials.

Upon arrival, 'Arafat made a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY in which he noted that he would brief the brother leader, the secretary general of the General People's Congress, on recent events and developments in addition to the what is being plotted against the Palestinian revolution. He added that he would apprise our leaders on what is taking place in the region.

Military Delegation Departs for Baghdad
GF161824 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel 'Abdallah al-Bashiri, chief of staff and member of the Standing Committee, left for Baghdad today leadinga large military delegation to Iraq's celebration of the anniversary of the July revolution.

In a predeparture statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY, the brother chief of staff and member of the Standing Committee said he carries a message from Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn on bilateral relations and current Arab issues.

Ghali Voices 'Concern' Over West Bank, Hebron

NC171254 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1240 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Cairo, 17 Jul (MENA) — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has communicated to the U.S. Embassy charge d'affaires in Cairo Egypt's concern over the deterioration of the situation in the West Bank and the measures taken by the Israeli occupation authorities in Hebron. During his meeting with the U.S. charge d'affaires today, Dr Butrus Ghali conveyed Egypt's position that these measures should be halted.

Ghali Arranges Visit by Upper Voltan Minister

NC171342 Cairo MENA in English 1315 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Cairo, July 17 (MENA) — State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali received today Ambassador of Upper Volta here Harouna Kouela.

The meeting dealt with the arrangements of the forthcoming visit by the foreign minister of Upper Volta to Egypt.

Ash-Sharif on Mubarak's Meeting With Media

NC161630 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Statement made by Minister of State for Information Safwat Ash-Sharif concerning President Mubarak's 16 July meeting with senior staff members from Egyptian radio and television — place not specified; recorded]

[Excerpts] His excellency the president met today with the information leaders from the radio and television stations and from the information department. After this meeting his excellency the president met with a number of workers and specialists in the information area and with those involved in producing documentaries and social development programs.

At this meeting, which was attended by a large number of information leaders, his excellency the president explained Egypt's foreign policy, Egypt's relations with the two superpowers, and Egypt's relations as well as Egypt's views on and policies toward a number of international and Arab issues, including the Lebanese issue and the Chadian problem. His excellency the president explained all of these subjects.

I want to explain that his excellency the president made it clear that Egypt's relations with all states are balanced relations that are not maintained at the expense of Egypt's dignity and that are not based on the infringement of Egypt's sovereignty or will.

The president also explained that Egypt adheres to its strategy for achieving peace and abides by its strategy as a nonaligned state and as a state that does not permit bases to be established on its territory.

The president also spoke about the state of domestic affairs, the issues of national action, and the role of the information media. The president said: The information media must play their role by making explanations, by enlightening the people, by permitting a constructive dialogue to be held, and by allowing all views to interact for the good of the people.

Also in this respect, the president talked about the Armed Forces. He explained that the Armed Forces are the shield of Egypt and the shield of this homeland, and that they have their national tasks. The president also explained that we will never have our Armed Forces carry out things that do not serve the cause of the Egyptian compatriots, nor do we send forces outside Egypt. However, the Egyptian Armed Forces are dedicated to defending Egyptian soil, Egyptian will, and Egyptian patriotism.

The president explained that we have a 5-year economic and social plan with clear-cut objectives that we hope to fulfill. Therefore, it is incumbent on the information media to clarify this plan and to familiarize the masses with it — whether from the perspective of industrial and agricultural development, or in the domain of services such as water, electricity, sewage, and the social infrastructure.

Mubarak To Address NDP Youth Conference 19 July

NC180610 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak will tomorrow morning inaugurate the first conference of National Democratic Party youth. The conference will be held in Cairo University and will last 3 days.

At the opening session, President Mubarak will address the youths on a number of internal and foreign issues in addition to the youths' role and responsibilities during the forthcoming phase.

Chairman of the conference and chairman of the Youths Higher Council Dr 'Abd al-Ahad Jamal ad-Din has declared that the conference will focus on discussing the youths' role and contribution to the development projects, in facing various social and economic problems and their role in Egyptian-Sudanese integration projects.

Four thousand youths from the various governorates of the republic will take part in the conference.

Abu Talib on Syrian-Israeli Negotiations

NC171324 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib has expressed the hope that the United States will employ its influence and work for starting negotiations between Syria and Israel as a means for resolving the Middle East problem. This was said during Dr Sufi Abu Talib's meeting today with Member of the Australian House of Representatives (Michel Makelof). The meeting was attended by the Australian Ambassador in Cairo.

During the meeting, views were exchanged on the latest developments in Lebanon, the positions of the various parties concerned, the role of the two superpowers and Europe in resolving the

Middle East issue as well as the prospects for the success of the initiatives put forward for solving this issue.

Sudanese Irrigation Minister Arrives 16 July

NC161154 Cairo MENA in English 1057 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Cairo, July 16 (MENA) — Sudanese Minister of Irrigation Saghyun az-Zayn arrived here today for a four-day visit for talks with his Egyptian counterpart 'Abd al-Had Samahah on complementary operations for the Jonglei canal project.

Samahah, who welcomed the Sudanese minister upon arrival at the airport, said that the talks will aslo evaluate the works of the joint company for installations and digging in the light of the integration policy.

He also said that the technical committee for the Nile basin countries will hold its meetings early in August in Cairo.

AL-AKHBAR Warns of Al-Qadhdhafi Plots

NC151004 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0715 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Cairo, 15 Jul (MENA) — The Cairo paper *Al-Akhbar* has called on the Arabs to protect the Arab front against the subversive plots which Libyan Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi is implementing to destroy the ties among its peoples and involve it in assassinations and bloodshed.

In its editorial today, the paper warned of the seriousness of the recent Al-Qadhdhafi plot which aimed at causing riots and divisions in the ranks of the Palestinians in the PLO and at assassinating King Husayn of Jordan.

The paper points out that this plot, as revealed in the statements of the Libyan ambassador in Amman, who resigned his post because his conscience could not tolerate the plot's destructive and subversive effects on the Arab front, makes it imperative for the Arabs not to underestimate it and to cooperate in order to confront the plots being hatched by Al-Qadhdhafi against them and against their interests at present or in the future.

Opposition Parties To Boycott Elections

PM151143 Cairo Al-Ahrar in Arabic 4 Jul 83 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Opposition Leaders Say They Will Boycott Elections Based on Absolute Lists"]

[Text] The leaders of the opposition parties (The Labor Party, the NPUG and the Liberal Party) have announced that they will boycott the forthcoming Consultative Council elections and local councils elections which will be run on party lists on the basis of absolute majority.

Liberal Party Leader Mustafa Kamil Murad has stated that the absolute lists system is unacceptable and that the party will not participate in the coming elections, having participated in the previous Consultative Council elections in which not a single one of its lists won.

Labor Party Leader Ibrahim Shukri said that on 19 December 1982 he submitted a memorandum to President Husni Mubarak outlining the party's views on election systems and methods and the prerequisites for fair and impartial elections. To this day, he added, there has been no discussion or consultation regarding them, and the government is still going its own way.

NPUG Secretary General Khalid Muhyi ad-Din emphasized that he rejects every restriction on the freedom of elections and that the absolute lists system blocks the opposition's way to the Consultative Council and to the local councils. The people in rural areas, he said, reject the absolute lists and so does a high percentage of the NPUG Members.

The party leaders were speaking at a press conference they held at the Liberal Party's headquarters yesterday.

Opposition Paper Criticizes Election System

PM151021 Cairo Al-Ahali in Arabic 6 Jul 83 p 1

[Editorial: "Beware, Gentlemen, the Deluge Is Coming"]

[Text] The decision taken by the opposition parties to boycott the local council elections and the Consultative Council elections should be a warning to both the rulers and the ruled; it is an indication of the depth of the abyss toward which the whole of society is being pushed thanks to the decisions and policies of the parasitic ruling minority.

It is not only a question of elections. It is, briefly, a question of choice between democracy and dictatorship and of whether corruption should be entrenched and protected, or opposed and liquidated. The insistence of those ruling us on holding the local council elections on the basis of the novel absolute party list system is tantamount to declaring a one-party dictatorship. This system gives the party that obtains 51 percent of the votes all the seats of the local council, thus violating the rights and ignoring the views and stands of 49 percent of the electors.

What is even more serious is that the absolute party list system prevents 90 percent or more of citizens from exercising their constitutional rights, foremost of which is to run as candidates in the general elections. It is no secret that the law on parties was designed to deprive political forces such as the Nasirites, the Marxists, the Wafdists, the Muslim Brotherhood and others of the right to establish their own parties. The police state atmosphere and terror that prevailed in Egypt in the past 10 years has made joining political parties, especially the opposition parties, a risky venture. Thus only 10 percent of the citizens belong to political parties.

The adoption of the absolute party list system in the local council elections is an impudent announcement by those ruling us of their intention to protect corruption and its spread. It is no secret that the disease of corruption that spread during the seventies does not involve only the high society and its luminaries. Rather, it is more widespread and rooted in the countryside and in towns via local councils and town councils which control the distribution of all essential commodities needed by citizens in the villages, districts, and towns.

A number of National Democratic Party [NDP] members have exploited their control of these positions and thus amassed illicit profits and built up their private wealth at the expense of services which are the right of every citizen. Therefore, handing over these councils exclusively to them perpetuates and redoubles the corruption.

By insisting on this system the NDP is leading us rapidly toward a real disaster. When the people lose confidence and hope in all the existing institutions, then a deluge will follow.

One again we cannot but draw attention to this and issue a warning, hoping that those who rule us will awaken before it is too late.

Saddam Husayn 17 July Anniversary Speech
JN170840 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0604 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Speech by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn on 15th anniversary of 17 July 1968 revolution — live or recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. O glorious Iraqi men and women, O heroes of the brave Iraqi Armed Forces, O sons of the glorious Arab nation everywhere: I send you greetings of pride and victory on this blessed occasion, the anniversary of your great revolution, the 17-30 July Revolution. Year after year, this anniversary has been the symbol of pride, freedom, and prosperity for the Iraqis and for their high ability to persevere, work, and create. On the 15th anniversary of the revolution, we have the right to be proud of our achievements. We have the right to be proud of what we have realized in Iraq.

Today, we are proud because we have decisively succeeded in preserving our achievements and the gains of our revolution, keeping it strong and powerful. We have made available to our great people and country the means of life, development, strength, and creativity. As we begin the 16th year of the revolution, we can confidently say that we have succeeded in building a society of freedom, justice, equality, dignity, honor, progress, and real prosperity. At the same time, we have succeeded in protecting this society from all plots and from the alien trends which, for the past 15 years, have been trying to hinder the process of construction and obstruct the path that has been delineated by the party, the leader of the revolution. We have protected our society from the ill winds blowing from Iran, which has attempted to sabotage and destroy this society. Iran attempted to annihilate our society and to annex proud Iraq, in humiliation and ignominy,within the empire of evil.

The level of the successes realized during the past 15 years of the march of the 17-30 July Revolution is, in itself, a historic success, with all the serious, deep, and comprehensive connotations of this expression. O Iraqi men and women, your party, the party of struggle, liberation, awakening, and generosity, promised you that your experiment would be a unique one. Your experiment has been so not only within the framework of the Arab revolution, but also within the revolutionary movements in the Third World. No matter how the enemies attempt to impose a blackout on this Iraqi beacon, which sheds light over the Arab homeland and the Third World, they will, God willing, inevitably fail. This is because your achievements during the recent years represent a genuine model of a people's ability to realize their aspirations for progress, freedom, awakening, and legitimate strength, provided these people are resolved to realize this, and provided proper circumstances are made available to them.

Brothers and Sisters, we celebrate the 15th anniversary of our revolution as we are waging a war against the unjust Iranian aggression. Few peoples in this world have celebrated such occasions during wars while still possessing the determination and the will to challenge, along with sentiments of pride, hope, and optimism, which are based on tangible facts that you possess. Brothers, the state of war, although it brought about many sacrifices and caused us pain at the loss of our beloved and faithful martyrs, has not instilled in us a state of despair, frustration, and dispersal, as the enemies had hoped and planned for.

The Iraqis, who were intended to bow their heads, relinquish their legitimate aspirations, and proceed on the path of frustration and defeat, are standing with their heads raised high. They enjoy high morale, a firm will, and are more determined to offer sacrifices and achieve heroic feats, irrespective of the cost or how long this will take. They are determined to defy the dangers, full of hope and optimism for the future. I am not the only one who says this. Every Iraqi senses what I say and believes in it. Even our enemies have admitted this fact, though they do not like it.

Iraq has bean ferociously fighting for the past 3 years. Despite the war, Iraq, today, is in a better position in all fields than all the other countries in the region. What is more important is that it is in a better position than those who sought to humiliate it. Iraq is the strongest and the mot capable of confronting the challenges and the dangers. Iraq is the most capable of developing in all spheres. It is also the most prosperous. Prosperity here does not mean the amount of financial assets one has; prosperity here means the real prosperity where the national economy is solid and is capable of dealing with crises and of continuing to develop on sound bases. Many of those who delude themselves thinking that their conditions are better than those of Iraq cannot exhibit one-tenth of your steadfastness. They may lose all the have if they are faced by one of the many tempests which you have faced, O Iraqis, and remained steadfast and strong.

This is the real meaning of power and prosperity. This is what makes us say with confidence, and without any boasting, that our situation is better and stronger than the others in all fields, in spite of the circumstances of the long war. We would not say this had we not sensed this through the difficult tests we have passed and the real achievements that we have attained before and during the war.

Glorious Iraqis, during the battles of the past 3 years, you have proved that you are the strongest, because the challenge that faced Iraq was the biggest challenge that any country in the region had faced in countemporary history. Despite this, you have succeeded in confronting this challenge and achieved victory, with God's help. If we review the situation in the region, we find that there are many other events taking place, most of which do not represent real power or a serious capability of confronting the challenges. Although many of these countries enjoy peace, they are anxious over the future while you, O Iraqis, have settled this matter. The sons of the people have come to fee that their future is really secure and that no future threats can be more fierce and complicated than the threats we have faced during the past 15 years, and during the 3 years of the war in particular.

Many countries in the region — and this is a fact realized by internal and external observers — are worried to a degree. They feel lost and dismembered and are living in a state of frustration and hesitation. You have dismissed worry and frustration from among yourselves. Your life is currently imbued with security, cohesion, and the determination to continue your march. The spirit of optimism, pride, and confidence, in the present and the future, prevails all over Iraq. The will to struggle and construct is embedded in the minds of the Iraqis.

This is a genuine asset for peoples and nations. This is the awakening which the strugglers and reformers, who preached revolution and change over the past generations and who wanted to revive past glories, had called for. God and history are my witness that I do not exaggerate when I say that during the past 15 years of the revolution, especially during this war, you have realized the dreams of former pioneers of struggle and reform. This was when you were able to link the present with the glorious past and create the circumstances and necessary factors to affirm your aspirations for the future. During the past 15 years, you have realized great achievements in the various fields; you have shown great heroism on the battlefield; and the Iraqi men and women displayed great perseverance and heroism. This has closed the gap of 1,000 years of weakness, backwardness, and slavery.

During the past 3 years, the Iraqis confronted aggression in September 1980; chased the enemy forces deep inside enemy territory; and fought east of Basra, east of Mandali, and east of Masyan in defense of the territory of great Iraq. Have not these achievements bridged the gap between us and our great ancestors who fought in the Islamic wars of liberation? Have not the Iraqi women offered their sons, husbands, and loved ones wholeheartedly, and expressed happiness for martyrdom, thus inflaming the spirit and increasing the determination of the fighters and people? Is not all this a continuation of the spirit of their great ancestors in early Islam and during the Islamic conquest?

Yes, you have connected the present with the past. O glorious Iraqi women, what can I say to you when, after offering your dear ones during the past 3 years, you came offering your ornaments and gold on the altar of the battle? By God, you have recorded a new, unprecedented chapter in the history of your nation. Today, Iraqi woman are not only continuing in the spirit of their glorious women ancestors, but are a qualitative change in the nation's history and a bright page in its future history.

Iraqi men also have the right to say, with the truth and honor of men and the objectivity of the devout, that they are not just a picture of their fathers and forefathers, but also a new page in the book of the glorious history of the nation — a brilliant, prosperous, and splendid page that will also occupy its great place in history. There will be those who will want to emulate us, just as we have aspired to emulate the lgorious past and its splendid pages.

Brothers and sisters, this was to what we aspired in Iraq and the Arab nation. We praise God for having lightened our hearts and guided our steps, and for giving us the support to achieve for our great country and glorious nation this dream and hope in our beloved Iraq. Despite all that we have achieved,, we have believed, and continue to believe, that the maintenance of strength, awakening, and abundance is possible only by preserving the elements which led us to them, the elements of faith, sacrifice, creativity, and humility. We pray to God to lighten our course and give use more success in rendering good and humble service. We will continue to be guided by the words of the Almight God: And say: Work (righteousness). Soon will God observe your work, and His Apostle, and the believers. [Koranic verse]

Brothers, the previous year, between July 1982 and July 1983, has a special value among the past 15 years and in the battle of honor and dignity that we are waging against the criminal, covetous enemy. As you know, Iraq was compelled to face the Iranian aggression. It was compelled to enter the Iranian territory to ward off evil, harm, and aggression against its own territory and cities. Iraq's success in confronting this aggression and Iran's expansionist policy has created Arab and international circumstances in which the true picture of the Tehran rulers' hostile expansionist intentions has become confused.

There were those among our friends and brothers who had advised the withdrawal of our forces from Iranian territory in order to provide better prospects for peace between the two countries. Since the first day of the conflict, we have affirmed our readiness to achieve a just and comprehensive peaceful settlement. In order to remove any obstacle to peace, and in response to the call of pan-Arab duty when the Zionist forces invaded Lebanese territory and the Palestnian revolution was exposed to grave dangers, we decided in those circumstances to withdraw from Iranian territory.

We spoke to the people and the nation last June and July on the significance of this decision. We said: While we are withdrawing from Iran in the service of the cause of peace and as an expression of the principles we uphold, and also as our contribution to the pan-Arab responsibility, we cannot ignore the true intentions of the Tehran rulers. We will continue to be completely ready to confront these hostile expansionist intentions.

Now, brothers, that the events of the previous year have become clear, we can cite some historicl facts that we have not mentioned before, because we only state facts after the picture has become completely clear so the necessary lessons can be drawn for the national benefit.

Some Arab regimes, which supported Iran against Iraq, told mediators even in messages that they would not remain silent if Iran tried to cross Iraqi borders, and that they supported Iran because Iraq had crossed into Iranian territory. Through the year following June 1982, the Tehran regime frequently announced on the tongues of its officials that it intended to cross Iraq's borders, occupy Iraq's towns, and topple the Iraqi regime. It tried to do so several times during the valiant battles waged east of Basra, Mandali, and Maysan throughout a whole year, during which it concentrated all its available forces. However, it failed, thanks be to God.

Nevertheless, all this has not changed the position of those who supported Iran against Iraq. They did not even change their position when the Zionist entity invaded Lebanon and threatened their own lands. Thus, their true stands and allegations have been exposed on the largest possible scale. They might have thought that if the Iranian invasion of Iraq had taken place — God forbid — It would obliterate this historical lie. However, Almighty God has revealed truth and exposed falsehood, for falsehood is by its nature bound to perish.

Before the immortal battles east of Basra took place, some Arab brothers — and we mean the brothers in Algeria — came to tell

us they had Iranian pledges that Iran would not cross Iraq's borders. Our reply was that we would not stop our preparations or decrease our vigilance after hearing these pledges, not out of distrust in the brothers' good will, but out of perfect awareness of the Tehran rulers' intentions, their black rule, and their persistence in evil, aggression, the occupation of Iraq, the humiliation of the Iraqi people, and the annexation of Iraq to the empire of their dreams. The Tehran rulers were at that time escalating their false claims that they only came to liberate Palestine and Jerusalem, and that Iraq had prevented them from doing so. In the maze of their charlatanism and delusive attempts, they called for the transportation of their armies across Iraq in order to participate in the Lebanon battle.

You are aware of our stand on this issue. We told them that we agree to that. Their arch-charlatan then rebuked his henchmen and told them: Your battle is basically against Iraq. Thus, falsehood and deception were exposed.

It is truly regrettable that those who blared out promises and those who heard what the Iranians said did not do anything after the facts had become clear to them. One year after that date, and after the recent serious events — of which the least serious and complicated in modern history has led to setbacks and catastrophes — we say that we are steadfast and Iraq is existing lofty, strong, and secure. God has disgraced the greedy and exposed their true nature. The conditions in Theran are today being exposed as they are: failure in all fields; failure inside Iran and total failure in the hostile war. This is not only our evaluation of the situation in Iran; it is the evaluation of all people — even those who allied themselves to the Tehran rulers and hoped for our defeat.

Our experience with these rulers shows that the people's will is the basis for rule; when people decide to stand fast and when the appropriate factors for this steadfastness become available to them, then all enemy schemes will collapse, one after the other. Even those whose schemes had been served by Khomeyni have become convinced that their dreams of destroying Iraq, partitioning it, and transforming the region into sectarian statelets fighting one another had been shattered in the face of the Iraqis' steadfastness, heroism, and genius and the impotence of the Tehran rules and their allies.

Our success in repulsing the unjust aggression against our beloved land for the second time, after we succeeded doing so the first time in September 1980, and within the framework of the circumstances that we have already explained, has not been by coincidence or luck. It was the upshot of comprehensive development on all strategic levels, whether on the level of building the Army and preparing it for steadfastness and combat, or by mobilizing the people and securing all the factors for steadfastness and success. History will record that, during this difficult test, we stood alone to fight in defense of our land, dignity, honor, and for our present and future. We are also fighting in defense of the nation, its identity, unity, fate, and honor. We, the Iraqis, were the only ones who were not reluctant in offering blood, materiel, and moral offerings for championing our brothers. In this respect, we mut recall with pride this good elite of Arab volunteers who fought alongside their Iraqi brothers. Compared to the huge numbers of Iraqis who contributed to the battle, the number of these Arab volunteers was minimal, but we consider their symbolic participation important in view of the principled meaning of the unity of the nation and its common fate. We also take pride in and appreciate any support by the brothers, whether this support is big or small, economic, military, or moral. This has not been support for Iraq only, though we are proud of it, but it has been and will continue to be support for the Arab nation, its principles, and future.

Brothers, the enemies believe they can defeat Iraq. At the beginning, they thought the military method would achieve this evil objective. With the escalation of the Iranian aggression against our country, and with the intensification of the threats by the ruling clique in Theran against our sovereignty, security, and land, a new attempt to harm Iraq began to be carried out: the attempt to impose an economic siege on it. It sought to have Iraq kneel economically, in addition to pursuing the scheme of military aggression. Though th emilitary scheme failed and the Tehran regime sustained humiliating defeats in the battlefield during the past year, it continues to implement the second stage of the scheme. The rancorous and ignorant Tehran rulers wagered and continue to wager on achieving some of their objectives through economic means.

Brothers, we have always faced facts as they are, in an accurate and objective manner. This is one of the reasons for our success and victory over all the conspiracies, schemes, and challenges. It is normal that after 3 years of war, after our outlets for exporting oil in the Gulf have been closed, and after the Syrian regime, as part of this scheme, closed our other outlet for exporting oil through the Mediterranean, it is normal for me to say that our revenues will diminish and that we would be facing a new situation on the economic level. However, what are the results of the aborted wagers on this level?

The Iraqi economy is, in the first place, a national economy that possesses concrete capabilities to continue. This economy is not based on grants from others or on shortsighted dealings with oil revenues. Therefore, we are capable of confronting the current circumstances by means of precautionary measures and through rationing expenditure, decreasing expenses, abandoning all that is unnecessary, postponing all that can be postponed of programs, and employing the maximum possible potential to increase production and improve performance. Even within the framework of these measures, Iraq continued and will continue its development process with the aim of opening the door wide for future prospects and for the sake of Iraq's might and its people's prosperity.

With the determination we possess; with the Iraqi people's inexhaustible offers; with the experience acquired throughout the last 15 years by the unified leadership and by the capable cadre of both the party and state — a cadre which is experienced in confronting the difficult tasks and complciated challenges; with the people-supported unlimited ability to adopt the appropriate decision at the appropriate time — whether this decision is a political, military, or economic one; and with our people, who are unified in terms of heart, mind, and body and who depend on real accomplishments attained during 15 years of the revolution march, we are capable, with God's help, of confronting the new circumstances, destroying this scheme, and comming out strong

and victorious. The enemy, together with those who share with it these delusions, will reap only disappointment and defeat from its schemes.

Impotence and frustration are the two characteristics that mark the situation in Iran, despite the statements, speeches, and arrogance by which the Tehran rulers try, in a manner that has been exposed to all, to cover the true wretched conditions in Iran. If the Tehran rulers are wagering on what they call attrition, now that their previous unsuccessful wagers have failed, they should know that Iraq has a great capacity to inflict harm on them, much more than they can harm Iraq, in this field in particular as well as in other fields. As we have previously demonstrated, what we mean we will prove to them, their allies, and those pushing them toward this unsuccessful wager. Iraq will hold out in the face of the new challenge and the Tehran rulers, their allies, and those sponsoring them in secret will reap only failure and disappointment.

If the Tehran rulers have some farsightedness or some care for their country and their people's security and future, they should tread the path of peace and good neighborliness. However, if they go too far in their desperate schemes and wicked dreams, they will reap destruction and further failure and frustration.

We have expressed our good intentions to live in peace with Iran's peoples on the basis of mutual respect and good neighborliness. During the past 3 years, particularly the last year, we proposed many initiatives which embody and support this stand. The latest was our initiative which we proposed in our message to the Iranian people on 8 June 1983, in which we called for concluding an agreement to avoid striking the towns and civilian targets. We also called for neutralizing the Gulf zone and halting all military operations in it until circumstances are appropriate to end the war and establish a comprehensive peace in our region.

The Tehran rulers have rejected and mistrusted these honest initiatives. They have erred just as they erred in their military and political delusions in the past. They have thus added new errors and stupidities to their previous ones. They are also causing more ruinations and woes to their peoples and economy. They are the ones responsible for the economic constraints suffered by their peoples. They are also completely responsible for the crises and dangers to which the Gulf area and the entire region are exposed.

While we warn the Iranian rulers against continuing the line that has proved a failure, we believe that the states of the region assume a basic responsibility in persuading — and even forcing — Iran to resort to peace. These states must use all their special capabilities and international influence to achieve peace in the region. Nobody should think that the continuation of the war would achieve any special benefits for him or spare him any harm, or that this war will be confined to Iran and Iraq. Such erroneous and short-sighted thinking could expose the region to serious dangers greater than those to which it has been exposed so far. We hold the international community, and the big powers in particular, and also the United Nations and Security Council responsible for stopping this conflict and persuading Iran, and even forcing it, to stop the war and aggression.

All the initiatives that have been taken so far have not achieved this objective. In fact, some of these initiatives were not really serious and did not have the necessary continuity. Some people have even tried to exploit the situation and court the Tehran rulers under the cover of mediation in order to achieve certain benefits. These policies show short-sightedness, opportunism, and ill intentions.

Brothers, sons of the Arab nation, while we are approaching the end of the third year of the aggressive war which Iran is waging against Iraq, we have not for a single day stopped thinking and paying attention to pan-Arab affairs. This war, which was instigated by forces that covet the Arab nation, aims among other things to sow division and disunity in the Arab homeland and spread frustration and despair in the ranks of the Arab masses. It also aims at striking Arab solidarity and encouraging regionalism and disregard for fateful pan-Arab issues.

On the basis of our awareness of this war and other factors, we have said and continue to say that in its just struggle against Iranian aggression, Iraq is in fact defending the Arab nation, its security, and its basic interests. The covetous want to turn the Arab homeland into a zone of influence for the big powers. Since direct interference by these powers has become an old and exposed method, which the Arab nation has known and combatted, the covetous big powers depend on certain elements in the region to carry out the plan of subjugating the Arab nation and controlling the Arab homeland. They provide these elements with the means of power, exploiting the evil, aggressive, and expansionist motives of these elements. Foremost of these elements is the Zionist entity and the ruling regime in Tehran.

We have stressed right from the beginning, before and after the war had begun, that the sharpest weapons in confronting these new plans is the preservation of the pan-Arab affiliation and Arab solidarity. We said that people must not pursue personal interests and selfish policies.

Arab solidarity is a necessity for all of us, even though the performance of our duties toward this Arab soldiarity entails some kind of temporary political and material sacrifice. Such a sacrifice is not only a duty, but an asset for us all which we can invest in difficult circumstances and when facing threats. We have always reiterated, even before the war, when Iraq was not exposed to a direct threat from abroad, the need for the Arab to stand alongside his brother Arab in any dispute with foreign countries. We do not state this from national chauvinism. The premise from which we proceed is solidarity and necessity. After this is achieved, we shall be able, within this concept, to correct mistakes and rectify stands. This is what we have stated and reiterated in our public statements and talks and during our participation in Arab summits. This is what we explained during our meetings with Arab officials. Events and experience now confirm the soundness of this concept and the soundness of what we have been warning against for many years.

The absence — nay, the collapse — of Arab solidarity enabled the ruling regime in Tehran to wage war agaisnt Iraq and preoccupy it for 3 years, stopping it from carrying out some of its

pan-Arab duties and tasks. The war also provided the Zionist enemy with the suitable circumstances for expanding its aggression and occupation. Had it not been for Iraq's steadfatness in the face of the Iranian designs for expansion, the entire Arab East would have collapsed, including the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf, and would have been transformed into small states, dominated by big powers and local forces. Though Iraq, with the courage of its sons and the clarity of its vision, has foiled the scheme which had it and the Arab nation as a target, the others have not become aware of the reality of his situation. Some of them even became more involved in their deviated policies and continue becoming more and more involved, dragging the nation to more setbacks and catastrophes.

For a long time we have been warning against the pitfall in which the Syrian regime has placed itself, and which poses a threat to Arab solidarity bases. This regime is the first in contemporary history that has set the precedent of Arab weapons striking Arab citizens. This precedent is now firmly established in Lebanon, in the dispute with the Lebanese and Palestinians. This is a historical error that cannot be justified under any circumstances.

When the dispute erupted between Iraq and Iran, the Syrian regime sided with Iran and supplied the Tehran regime with weapons and assistance in every field. This regime also massed its troops on the borders with Jordan in 1980. Here it is once again threatening the PLO, brandishing arms in its face. This regime is doing all this while the Zionist forces are only a few km from Damascus. We told President Hafiz al-Asad at the Fes summit: How can you liberate the Golan or repulse a new Zionist aggression while you are torpedoing the bases of Arab solidarity in your pro-Iran stand against Iraq? Who will rush to your support and assistance if you are exposed to a new aggression, after what you have done to Iraq and after what you have done in Lebanon?

This method of torpedoing Arab relations is the gateway through which Zionism will pass, along with all those who covet the Arab land, to deal separately with every part of the Arab homeland. This is what is taking place now. Anyone who wishes to relinquish his pan-Arab responsibilities can now put forth excuses and justifications and hide behind the excuse of the current circumstances which were created by the aforementioned unsound and deviant policies.

We must state here for the sake of truth and history that the Arab situation has never before experienced such a weakness, in fact, a collapse in Arab solidarity. Despite all the illnesses of the Arab situation, clashes with the enemies used to serve as a motive for solidarity, even if at a minimum level. The October 1973 war was the best proof of this. But the current Arab situation does not even ensure the minimum level of motivation for Arab solidarity in the face of dangers.

We told the Syrian president: If you want to liberate the Golan or repulse a Zionist aggression, you will need the Arabs, including Iraq. You must, therefore, preserve your relations with Iraq under all circumstances and regardless of your calculations. This is the law of Arab solidarity and pan -Arab exigencies in facing dangers.

The Syrian regime has been warning of a new Zionist aggression for months, but what has evolved is a ruthless war against the Palestinian resistance rather than the Zionist enemy. We ask: Had the Zionist aggression they were talking about occurred, who would stand on the side of the Syrian regime? The Damascus regime has given others the excuse to stand idly by. Instead of returning to the law of Arab solidarity, we find the Syrian regime insisting on siding with Iran against Iraq and indulging in sabotage plans against the PLO and the Arab nation.

It is time the Arab situation is studied on a true and serious pan-Arab basis. It is time wrong and deviant options are abandoned for the sake of restoring Arab solidarity and ensuring the minimum requirements of confrontation in the current phase. We must tackle Arab facts and exigencies away from rancor, grudges, and the memories of past bitter events. Pan-Arab responsibility is greater than all this.

We are not saying this because we are in a state of war and are temporarily in need of Arab solidarity. As part of the Arab nation, we need Arab solidarity at all times. Iraq has been able, through the courage of its sons and its leadership's clarity of vision on the national and pan-Arab levels, to destroy the plots and the dangers threatening it so the war has now become only a question of time.

We emphasize the need to restore Arab solidarity, but this solidarity must be built on correct pan-Arab bases. Arab solidarity should be on the basis of Arab commitment, not temporary reconciliations which experience has proved futile. Such reconciliations do not resolve problems and seriously tackle the causes trheatening Arab solidarity. The traditional methods of achieving Arab solidarity have proved a failure. We must seek serious methods that are more convincing and viable.

Pan-Arab responsibility calls upon us all to adopt a firm stand in support of the PLO and its legitimate leadership against any attempt to split the organization, dominate it, or weaken its political stand. Any weakening of the PLO will only serve Zionist plans to obliterate the Palestinian national identity and, consequently, liquidate the Palestine question. The independent Palestinian decision, taken in legitimate institutions and by democratic means, is a right of the Palestinian people which we must respect and support, just as we expect others to respect our independent opinions and stands. A correct pan-Arab view does not mean dominating the Palestinian people, but supporting these Arab people and their institutions and leaderships and resolving any dispute through a fraternal relationship and sound dialogue.

Within the context of talk regarding Arab Solidarity, and regarding the position of some Arab brothers on the war Iran is launching against Iraq, we say — as we have always said — that we take pride in all material and moral support the brothers extend or are extending to us. As Iraqis, we will never forget this aid. However, out of our pan-Arab responsibility, we have to say that supporting Iraq in this battle should not take place within the framework of small calculations according to which aid to Iraq increases when the Iranian danger increases and decreases when the danger decreases.

Fixing the volume of moral and material support according to temporary calculations depending on the danger coming from Iran is a stand that does not express a farshighted pan-Arab viewpoint. It is part of mean political calculations that threaten Arab security and harm the principles of Arab solidarity. The danger which came from Iran and which threatened the Arab nation, the Arab East countries, the Arabian Peninsula, and particularly the Gulf states is a comprehensive and strategic threat. It is first of all linked with the rulers' intentions. This danger will not diminish if these rulers' capabilities are weakened and if, under the pressure of their shocking defeats, their methods of expression or their exposed attempts to single out Iraq are changed. Confronting this danger, the unlimited support that should be extended to Iraq must take place within the framework of a comprehensive and farsighted pan-Arab viewpoint.

Within this context and within the framework of a responsible pan-Arab attitude toward Iraq, and under the current dangers threatening the Arab nation, headed by the sectarian partition plans that are today exacerbating and threatening not only Lebanon but also Syria and other countries in the Arab East, Iraq sought the establishment of a special relationship with fraternal Egypt, while maintaining an unwavering responsible and pan-Arab stand on As-Sadat's policies. We believe that continuing the negative stand toward Egypt in light of the tangible changes inside Egypt and the region constitutes a grave danger to the Arab nation and its higher interests. Through fraternal relations, mutual confidence, and constructive dialogue, we can express our stands in a more precise and responsible manner and develop stands in a sound way that serves the Arab nation's interests and works together in the service of the principles of pan-Arab struggle, away from narrowminded calculations and small gains.

Brethren, we have always warned agaisnt superpowers' interfering in the Arab situation. We said that this interference has today become very large, although it takes place through new and diversified methods. This interference consitutes such a large gap in the Arab situation that some began to judge pan-Arab stands on the basis of the stand of this or that foreign power, as if the pan-Arab stands did not have their special bases and laws. The interference of the big power has penetrated the political, popular, and even the professional roganizations, a matter that weakened the pan-Arab viewpoint and stand and helped spread perplexity among the Arab masses' ranks and pioneering forces.

The independence of the Arab will and Arab decision is essential, not only on the level of regimes, but also on the level of the political parties and movements, as well as the popular organizations. This independence enables the Arab masses and their pioneering forces to make a sound analysis and sound conclusions on the pan-Arab stands and responsibilities.

Lofty Iraqis and brother Arabs everywhere, the assessment of international relations is always linked to the basic course which is defined by the people and their political leadership. That is why our viewpoint on international relations and the methods adopted by us in this field have been connected to our principles and our national and pan-Arab interests, and also to the humanitarian objectives in which we believe.

The basis of our international relations is independence, nonalign-ment, mutual respect, and the exchange of mutual legitimate benefits. On the basis of this sound policy we have established broad and fruitful relations with the countries of the world. Following the 3 years of the war and the dangers which surrounded us, we can proudly say that to us, independence and nonalignment are not just slogans or a wish, but a firm reality, a reality that has passed the difficult test. We can confidently say that by adopting such a stand, we have not served our cause only, but have offered a good example to our nation and to many countries in the Third World whose independence is weakened by their political, security, or economic pressures. Iraq has passed the most difficult test that any Third World country may face in contemporary times. 'n spite of all this, this country emerged strong, independent, and with a free will. This is a great asset for the present and the future. This is a big asset for Iraq, the Arab nation, and the Nonaligned Movement.

Iraq has not only passed this difficult test but has also proved that this independent policy will irrefutably guarantee national security, sovereignty, prosperity, and development. All the guarantees which come from abroad cannot assure real security and real sovereignty. They also cannot forever safeguard the people's achievements and the keys to their future and their good standard of living. Although foreign interests may, at one period of time, conform to the interests of this or that country, this, however, can never be a guarantee for the future. In any deal which may be concluded on the international level, this or that international party may abandon its allies or followers. Sovereignty would then be lost as well as security, the revolution, and the resources. This is not a theory but a fact that has been substantiated throughout history.

The broad relations established by Iraq on the basis of independence, equality, and mutual interests have produced good results in difficult circumstances. There are those who support Iraq as a friend and who view national relations and interests from a long-term strategic viewpoint and not with the mentality of small shopkeepers. In this respect, we would like to praise the wise and far-sighted stand that France adopts on the situation in our region and on the Iranian aggression against Iraq. This stand will have a positive impact on the development of Iraqi-French relatiosn, on France's relations with the Arab world, and with the Third World countries also. Other friends, though they did not possess influential means, have also sincerely supported us. We highly appreciate this stand and will never forget it as its ethical value is very significant to us.

We must be realistic and say that some states, with which we hoped our relations with would go beyond the narrow framework of mutual interest and toward which we had adopted sincere stands, did not reciprocate these stands in the circumstances of the war. They preferred to adopt the method of balancing and persuing temporary interests. At any rate, we have considered the special calculations of each stand, those for and against.

We must understand that declared principles are not considered always and under all circumstances in actual dealings in international relations. There are some people who imagine that they

might be harmed if they remain sincere in their relations with us. This, in our opinion, is an erroneous and short-sighted stand. Sincerity in friendly relations is not only a moral stand, regardless of how important this stand is, but also proof of the far-sightedness of the political leadership concerned and its policy in international relations. He who wants to build his international relations on the basis of viability and continuity must bear certain temporary sacrifices for the sake of achieving the strategic objectives of his policies.

The policy of nonalignment has always been one of the basic pillars in our position on international relations. Our role in the Nonaligned Movement has been linked to our principled view of international relations. It has also been essentially linked to our basic national and pan-Arab interests. Iraq's sincere and effective role in the Nonaligned Movement will continue to develop with the development of our resources and their capability to act and exert influence. Our role will not be confined to the technical framework of organizing and hosting this or that nonaligned conference. Iraq will continue under all circumstances to play an active and effective role in developing the movement's concepts and achieving its humanitarian aims.

Iraq was scheduled to host the Seventh Nonaligned Summit. Still, it took the initiative and proposed transferring the venue to India for the reasons we stated at the time. But this did not weaken our role in the movement, our interest in it, and our support and assistance to it.

As I said, our stand on the movement will develop with the development of our resources. But we must also warn that the Nonaligned Movement has a responsible role which it must assume concerning the Iranian aggression against Iraq. Any weakness in the performance of this role will not only weaken those who assume direct responsibility for the movement, but will weaken the entire movement. The Nonaligned Movement must make an effective and serious initiative to stop this aggression, whether through direct means or international influences.

I must be more precise here and say that when we call for an effective initiative, we mean what we say. An initiative must be really effective to have a serious effect. The success of the Nonaligned Movement in resolving disputes among its members is the true measure of the movement's import and ability to achieve its noble aims.

Brothers, glorious Iraqi men and women, on this day last year, the gangs of enemies, rancorous and covetous, were wagering against Iraq, against its great revolution, solid unity, and gigantic accomplishments. Still, on that day I spoke to you with confidence and optimism. I derived that confidence and optimism from you, from your principles, noble mettle, great courage, and unlimited ability to sacrifice. After last year, which I said was a special one in the past 15 years and in the course of the war, I feel proud and happy that those wagers collapsed and Iraq remained with its head held high. I am sure that this is also the feeling everywhere in this precious homeland. All those wagers against you and your beloved Iraq have lost. God willing, the remainder of the desperate wagers dreamt of by the ignorant and suspect shall also lose.

Brothers, Iraq remains safe. Its territory, unity, freedom, and accomplishments remain safe. In fact, Iraq has emerged from this experience with stronger unity, more solid will, and greater ability to achieve more accomplishments. It emerged with its head held high and with greater confidence in the present and future. It emerged from the experience more mature and more determined to continue its right path on the national and pan-Arab levels.

When I say that Iraq emerged from the experience in this way, although the war still exists, it is becasue I am confident that our great people and brave Army realize that the preservation of the path to victory and the elements that achieve victory will maintain this way, as it is and as we wish it to be. These are your accomplishments.

Brothers and sisters, I have said much in your praise, O beloved Iraqi men and women. No matter how much I say in your praise, I feel much more should be said. By God, you are an inexhaustible source of bountiful sacrifices, courage, patience, heroism, sincerity, genuineness, and generosity. A people like you deserve the best kind of life. They deserve the glory, prosperity, and development that they have attained and which they will continue to attain, with God's help. Such a people deserve to have their place in contemporary history as your immortal ancestor had deserved their privileged status in ancient history. This is the greatest achievement that one can hope for.

In our Arab life, there is no other sublime objective than the objective of making our present the exact, vivid, and developed image of our glorious past and pursuing work with a genuine capacity for rejuvenation and creativity so our actions should come in sequence with the work of our glorious past. The achievements that you have attained make you shoulder momentous responsibilities in your homeland, Iraq, and in the Arab world. We are confident that you will be worthy of this trust as only great peoples and great individuals can shoulder such momentous responsibilities.

The achievements you have attained, brothers, will increase the number of those who envy you and those who harbor hatred against you. But I do not worry about you or your future from any evil and envious persons because, after all the evil, charlatanism, rancor, conspiracy, and siege which you have faced, no one can any longer close the outlets to your present and future. May God bless you, protect you, and take you under his wing.

Men of the Iraqi Armed Forces, the sons of the Iraqi men and women, you who have foiled all the wagers and all the schemes with your patience, courage, and your high capabilities; glorious men, today you are not only defending great Iraq, although there can be no nobler mission, but I see in you the legions that have wiped out 1,000 years of slumber, weakness, and submission to invaders. You have not only protected modern Iraq, but you also protect its entire history and open all doors to its future for a long time to come.

I can imagine your great ancestors, the fighters and the builders, looking at you from far back in history with a look of admiration

and pride, a look that after many centuries of pain, anxiety, and bitterness has finally come to rest. May God bless you, protect you, and keep you for your homeland, kinfolk, and nation.

As for the glorious and beloved martyrs, all of our achievements, of which we are proud, are the result of your pure blood and your firm determination in confronting death to produce life for the kinfolk and homeland and to restore to the history of this country its brilliant heritage. You are the most beloved and the most cherished in the hearts of all the Iraqis. You are the most sublime symbol of this gigantic march. May you rest in peace. Peace be upon all of you.

President Receives 'Arafat, Voices Support
JN151124 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1100 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Jul (INA) — President Saddam Husayn stressed Iraq's unwavering stand in support of the PLO and the maintenance of its independence and effective role in the struggle for the restoration of the Palestinian Arab people's rights. This came during President Saddam Husayn's reception of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat here today. 'Arafat began a visit to Iraq yesterday.

'Izzat Ibrahim, RCC vice chairman; Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Hani al-Hasan, 'Arafat's political adviser; and the director of the PLO office in Baghdad attended the meeting.

The two sides reviewed the situation in the Palestinian arena and discussed the plots aimed at liquidating the PLO. They also reviewed and assessed the Arab situation in general. They stressed the importance and the need for a unified Arab stand in support of the PLO so the PLO can preserve its unity and bolster its capabilities to continue its struggle for the Palestinian Arab people's just rights.

'Arafat Leaves 16 July
JN161613 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Jul (INA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Baghdad this evening at the end of a 3-day official visit to Iraq during which he held talks with President Saddam Husayn. The talks focused on developments of the situation in the Arab region in general and in the Palestinian arena in particular.

Reports on King Husayn Joining Peace Talks Denied

Information Minister's Denial

JN171823 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, acting prime minister and information minister, has categorically denied reports disseminated in occupied Jerusalem on a proposal by His Majesty King Husayn to join the Middle East peace negotiations. Abu 'Awdah told AFP that these reports are false and baseless.

It is noteworthy that Israeli Government spokesman Dan Meridor has stated that the Israeli Cabinet today discussed a proposal by His Majesty King Husayn to join the Middle East peace negotiations, adding that this proposal was communicated by two U.S. figures who recently met with his majesty.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B Article

JN180921 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 18 Jul 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Campaigns To Cast Doubt Will Not Do," *Sawt Ash-Sha'b* says: It has been noticed recently that Israeli and other hostile media, every now and then, circulate unfounded news regarding Jordan's position on the Middle East peace issue with the aim of distorting Jordan's clear and open position whose clarity cannot be misinterpreted.

Yesterday morning Israeli radio talked about what it described as an invitation by His Majesty King Husayn to initiate peace negotiations with Israel. Israeli media began to elaborate on this lie to the extent of saying that this invitation was discussed by the Israeli Cabinet. It is not strange for Israeli and hostile media to receive this type of news, highlight and circulate it in order to consecrate it, and begin a campaign of distortion on the Jordanian position which is committed to Arab unanimity, the nonrelinquishment of Arab rights, and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to their land and homeland, as well as to the establishment of their independent state on the soil of their occupied homeland.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b adds: The Likud government, led by Begin, has never ceased to repeat such news and invitations to unilateral negotiations between Jordan and Israel. Israel knows in advance that Jordan rejects such suspect invitations even before the Likud took over in Israel. Jordan's rejection of these invitations was represented in its firm opposition to the Camp David accords and the separate Egyptian-Israeli talks during the reign of the late Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat. Still, this government continues to repeat such invitations in order to shake Arab commitment to pan-Arab unanimity. Furthermore, the Israeli Labor Party and other opposition parties are exploiting such lies by talking about what they describe as the Jordanian option, in an attempt to emphasize the concept of this imaginary option, at a time when there is no Jordanian, Egyptian, or Arab option in political reality; there is only a Palestinian option, the option of the true owners of Palestinian decisionmaking. No person or party can talk or negotiate on its behalf other than the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b adds: It is observed that the recent Israeli news, or the new Zionist campaign of casting doubt on Jordan's stand, coincides with another hostile campaign — trying to represent Jordan as the state that implements U.S. policy and rotates in the orbit of U.S. plans. These campaigns base their stand on Jordan's conditional acceptance of U.S. President Reagan's peace initiative on the basis of a comprehensive Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and the halting of Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Gaza. In fact, those who are prejudiced against Jordan on this basis are those who accepted the U.S. mediation for the disengagement of forces with Israel in the Golan, at a time when Israel officially declared the annexation of the Golan. These parties are also carrying out continued contacts with Washington, receiving U.S. Secretary of State Shultz, and forming a committee to follow up contacts between the two countries. Their foreign minister will shortly visit Washington for this purpose. However, their campaigns of casting doubts could not conceal the contradiction between what they say and what they practice.

Sawt Ash-Sha'b concludes: Jordan has openly declared its stand on many occasions that it rejects direct and separate negotiations, that it will not represent anybody or negotiate on behalf of others, and that it respects the Palestinian decisionmaking and its independence concerning what it deems suitable for the Palestine question and the rights of the Palestinians. Jordan will be forever the backbone and support of the Palestinian struggle, stemming from the Arab summit decisions and Arab unanimity. Jordan, which is subjected to another doubt-casting campaign will not allow such lies and hoaxes to prevent it from pursuing its pan-Arab policy and remaining committed to it.

Prime Minister Reportedly Offered To Resign

JN152013 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2000 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] An official source in Amman said today that Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran, who is also the defense minister, submitted his resignation to King Husayn last month. The source added that the king will decide whether to accept or reject the resignation during the next few days after returning from a holiday in France.

Government Said To Reconsider Ties With Libya

GF161314 Kuwait Al-Hadaf in Arabic 15 Jul 83 p 1

["Exclusive" report from Cairo]

[Text] Informed sources have told *Al-Hadaf* here that the Jordanian Government will reconsider its diplomatic relations with Libya after the recent statements made by the resigned Libyan ambassador, 'Aziz 'Umar Shib. 'Umar Shib disclosed the day before yesterday that Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has planned an operation to assassinate King Husayn of Jordan.

The sources said the statements of the resigned Libyan ambassador are currently being discussed in detail by Jordanian leaders who will send a comprehensive report on the outcome of their meetings to the Jordanian monarch, now on a private visit to France.

The sources speculate that the Jordanian Government will decide on its diplomatic relations with Libya after King Husayn's return from France.

JORDAN TIMES Questions U.S. 'Double Standards'

JN161336 Amman Jordan Times in English 16 Jul 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Never Serious"]

[Text] Just before PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's arrival in Jordan late last March for the final round of talks on the Reagan proposals of Sept. 1, many Arab and European politicians were constantly urging the U.S. Administration to take a swift move towards strengthening its sagging credibility with the Arabs. Unless such a move came soon or was in the offing, these politicians and others warned, there simply would be no chance of Jordan and the PLO reaching consensus on entering the American-led peace process; and it was evident to almost everybody that that would necessarily mean the demise of the U.S. intitiative for Middle East peace.

The Americans, to be fair, were fully aware of the need to do something drastic at that time in order to save the peace process from collapse. But they either failed to live up to the occasion or had no intention of doing a thing about it in the first place. Still, their response to Arab and some European calls for action was always the same. It was impossible for the slow political process in Washington to cope with accelerating Middle East events, even if the U.S. wanted a match, U.S. officials invariably said.

Today, after the U.S. failure to sustain its own president's proposals for an Arab-Israeli settlement and at about the same time that the Reagan initiative is prepared for burial, the American story of not being able to exert enough pressure on the Israelis in a given period of time, is unfolding as rapidly as the original claim of "slowness" was made months ago.

Right after the explosion that destroyed the American Embassy in Beirut last April, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz immediately flew into the area and concluded the Lebanon-Israeli withdrawal agreement of May 17.

In a matter of days afterwards, Washington was able to lift the embargo on the sale of advance fighters for the Israeli Air Force, and Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger instantly signalled the U.S. return to strategic understanding with the Begin government.

Also today, the U.S. is more than just able and willing to block in seconds any U.N. resolution that would condemn Israel for its harassment of Palestinians in the occupied territories and that would demand from the Zionist state a halt to its settlement drive in the West Bank, especially in the midst of Arab cities and towns.

If these are not American double standards, would Washington please tell us what is? If it is U.S. credibility that is at stake now, and the Americans do not really care about the consequences, why should we? For all know, the U.S. seemed once to seek an honest role for itself to play in the Middle East, but, as if in a bad act, it could not continue it. And for what it is, Washington simply can never be serious again, it seems.

Columnist Scores U.S. Stand at Security Council

JN161717 Amman Ar-Ra'y in Arabic 16 Jul 83 P 26

[Tariq Masarwah's "Every Day" column: "Curses Will Not Restore Stolen Camels"]

[Text] We have never tried to understand the facts behind political stands, and, consequently, we do not know how to deal with them because we deal with politics in a tribal mentality. The U.S. stand at the UN Security Council on the Hebron issue, which is part of the Israeli settlement plans in the occupied Arab territories, has created a storm in the media but did not result in any Arab political stance which might for once place Washington outside the epithet of a well-meaning mediator in the Arab-Zionist struggle. For those who do not understand the real nature of the U.S. stand, we give the following explanation:

If the United States rejects a UN Security Council draft resolution which stipulates that the Israeli settlements are illegal in accordance with international law, then Washington supports the Israeli settlements because a double negative means positive.

The Israeli opposition Labor Party and other small Israeli opposition parties do not approve settlements in areas with a high Arab population density and oppose the Likud government policy of establishing settlements in and around Nabulus and Hebron. Washington's stand then is worse than that of the Israeli oposition and the Labor Party because it supports the establishment of settlements in Hebron and the dismissal of its elected municipal council. At the UN Security Council yesterday, Washington outdid even the Begin government. Washington defended the Gush Emunim settlement gangs and patronized their policies, but David Levi, Israeli deputy prime minister for housing affairs, has retreated from his government's position and said: The Israeli quarter in Hebron is inhabited by the Arabs and we cannot think of taking it back without reaching agreement with its Palestinian inhabitants.

Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter once told a group of listeners in Amman: I frankly tell you that the West Bank and Gaza will never return, and the Democratic Party — and I am one of its members — will champion the principle of annexing the West Bank and Gaza Strip by Israel in the coming U.S. presidential elections. It is also likely that in the competetion to win Jewish money and votes, the Republican Party will also champion this principle.

This is what Jimmy Carter said here in Amman. Those who have ears to hear let them hear. Those who want to continue brandishing media weapons in the face of the ultra-Zionist U.S. Administration may continue to do so, but nobody will regard this as a political stance equal in size to the U.S. ultra-Zionism.

Al-Jumayyil Ratifies Lebanese-Israeli Pact

NC151526 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1524 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] It has been learned that President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has signed the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, which provides for the withdrawal of the Israeli army from Lebanon. The agreement will only be put into force after the exchange of documents between Lebanon and Israel.

Clandestine Radio Report

NC151915 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil signed the Lebanese-Israeli agreement today and sent it to the *Official Gazette* for publication. This was announced by well-informed official sources this afternoon. The sources added that what remains is to sit with the United States and the Zionist enemy to exchange the instruments of ratification so that the agreement will be ready for implementation.

The sources said that the Foreign Ministry has notified the Lebanese embassies abroad of the signing. The first to be notified was Washington through Foreign Minister Elie Salim, who arrived in New York late last night from Athens. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz informed Israel that President al-Jumayyil signed the agreement.

Shaykhani 'Surprised' at Signing

NC152014 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] [Justice and Information] Minister Shaykhani expressed surprise at the news circulated today by certain news media that the president of the republic has signed the 17 May agreement. He said that the whole question is that the Republican Palace circles asked the Chamber of Deputies secretariat to hand over the text of the law on which the Chamber of Deputies voted in order to study the legal periods during which the agreement must be ratified.

Al-Jumayyil Discusses Security Situation 15 July

NC151818 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil met in the Republican Palace today with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan. They discussed the current situation and the incidents that seem to be aimed against the Army through the creation of tension in more than one area. Commenting on Wadi Abu Jamil incidents, Al-Wazzan said: As far as I know, a school was being evacuated when clashes erupted with some armed men. He said that the state is implementing the laws and that there are some people who have grown used to standing up to the state.

Following his meeting with Prime Minister al-Wazzan, President al-Jumayyil received Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad. They discussed the government plan to face the fateful circumstances. Al-As'ad said: My presence here has to do with the proposals which the independent parliamentary bloc has adopted. I conveyed these proposals to the president today and we discussed it. We also discussed President al-Jumayyil's visit to Washington, the Reagan-Al-Jumayyil summit meeting, and the general situation, particularly the security incidents in 'Alayh yesterday and in Beirut today. He added: I believe that these attempts are made by all elements which want to create agitation and place obstacles in the way of internal stability. These attempts are not unexpected.

Al-Jumayyil Meets Officials

NC160735 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has followed up the developments in the capital and the mountain and discussed the situation with Prime Minister al-Wazzan and Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad. President al-Jumayyil said the Army does not support one community against another, and the Army's task is to establish justice among the citizens and to turn over a new leaf in relations. President al-Jumayyil displayed interest in the developments of the security situation in 'Alayh and the capital in the wake of Thursday's incidents. He held a meeting with the prime minister during which they assessed these developments.

At midnight last night, President al-Jumayyil visited the Defense Ministry, where he met with Army Commander General Ibrahim Tannus and command officers. He then visited the operations room at the ministry and saw how measures and orders to the Army and security forces in Beirut are carried out. President al-Jumayyil then met with Chamber Speaker al-As'ad, who communicated to him the recommendations adopted by the independent parliamentary bloc during its meeting 3 days ago. Speaker al-As'ad said there are troublemakers who try to obstruct stability. Meanwhile, the Socialist Democratic Party affirmed that the Army is the only hope for Lebanon's resurgence, and regarded resistance to the Army as a rejection of the homeland and of the possibility for its revival.

Security, Vigilance Stressed

NC161900 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil focused his attention today on two basic issues: First, security; and second, the dossier of the Lebanese-U.S. talks. On the security level, President al-Jumayyil, in his instructions to the security commands, stressed the need for action in order to impose security, for vigilance in order to implement the law, and for preventing any attempt to create disturbances or endanger the citizens' lives. Republican Palace circles have expressed satisfaction with the Army's control of the ereas which witnessed tension yesterday, with the maintaining of order, and with the safeguarding of citizens' security and property.

Regarding the preparation for his visit to Washington and talks

with President Reagan and U.S. officials, President al-Jumayyil today received the former chairman of the Lebanese-American League. They reviewed the current preparations for his visit to Washington, his tour of certain U.S. states, and his meeting with the U.S. people of Lebanese descent.

Druze Leader Supports Army Mountain Deployment
NC151849 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Following his meeting with Chamber of Deputies Speaker al-As'ad, President al-Jumayyil received Amir Faysal Arsalan, who affirmed the support of the people in 'Alayh and Ash-Shuf for the Army. In his talks with Amir Arsalan, President al-Jumayyil stressed that the Army refuses to enter the area because there are foreigners present. He asserted that when the Army enters the area, it is for all the citizens alike and not for one faction against another, an idea that certain people are trying to circulate. He said that the Army's mission will be to turn over a new leaf in relations among all the Lebanese factions.

Following the meeting, and in answer to journalists' questions, Amir Arsalan said: I ask you to conduct a poll among the citizens in the mountain to find out what they want. He said: I exchanged views with President al-Jumayyil on the means to save the areas under occupation, and we reached understanding on certain matters. He added: Fear among citizens must be eliminated, because there is a balance of horror in the mountain. Eliminating horror requires the foreign armed manifestations existing there to be removed.

Amir Arsalan told the journalists: Please, visit the mountain and find out for yourselves what the citizens views are. It is natural for me to say that I support the Army, because our stand is well-known. However, there are other factions which say no. Ask the citizens what they want. They want and are interested in securing their jobs, opening the roads, and sending their boys to school. The citizens want to live because they can no longer tolerate the existing siege. They want any solution that ensures well-being.

Elie Salim Comments After Shultz Meeting
NC161947 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Elie Salim held a 2 hour and 10 minute meeting this evening with U.S. Secretary of State Shultz in the presence of Ambassador Philip Habib. Following the meeting Dr Salim said: I have met with Secretary Shultz and discussed the topics that President al-Jumayyil will raise with him next week. He said: We are interested in finding specific points that will produce results in the near future. He said that Lebanon well realizes that it is facing serious problems and pressures, and that it needs to make some progress regarding the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

Salim added: Washington has committed itself to these goals and we are working closely together to ensure that they are achieved. He said: I feel fully confident that these results will be reached, because we are discussing specific ideas that will crystallize next week during the meeting between Presidents Reagan and Al-Jumayyil. He said: We are looking forward to a dynamic summer as regards the diplomatic moves to achieve this goal.

In reply to a question, Minister Salim said: I discussed with Secretary Shultz Lebanon's stand that the withdrawal of any foreign force from positions in Lebanon must be within the frameowrk of a timetable for overall withdrawal. He added: I believe that we enjoy profound U.S. understanding of this position. Israel is a sovereign and independent country and, naturally, may want to make decisions in keeping with its military, political, and economic interests. I also believe that Israel is committed to discussing these issues with the United States, and that the United States is committed to coordinating with us regarding these moves.

Asked if the Israelis have actually begun their partial withdrawal, Dr Salim said: No. Israel has withdrawn from positions where its forces had no permanent presence, only checkpoints. He said: I cannot say that there is currently a partial withdrawal from Lebanon. I believe that Prime Minister Begin will discuss this issue with President Reagan.

Regarding a report that President al-Jumayyil signed the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, which Minister Shaykhani denied, Minister Salim said: The president acts as the constitution empowers him, but the agreement will only be put into force after the exchange of the signed documents. Minister Salim refused to consider the U.S. efforts to get Syria to withdraw from Lebanon as having reached a deadlock. He said that the United States has ideas about how to tackle this issue with President al-Asad, and that Lebanon also has ideas. He added: I believe that efforts are underway to reach this goal.

Beirut Reports Salim Interview on U.S. Television
NC171842 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] In Washington, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim said in a statement to a U.S. television network that the Lebanese Government has arrested a number of people and it is examining new information concerning the explosion at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut. Minister Salim refused to say whether the detainees are Lebanese. He also refused to give further details for security reasons.

On the "Face the Nation" program, Minister Salim said that Lebanon is building its military strength with the help of the United States and the European states. He added: We have increased our Army from 20,000 to 32,000 and soon we shall increase it to 60,000. The foreign minister affirmed that one part of President al-Jumayyil's forthcoming visit to the United States will deal with negotiations for the purchase of additional weapons and for further training of Lebanese officers. He expressed the belief that only a strong Lebanon can unite the country.

Regarding the partial Israeli withdrawal, Minister Salim said that Lebanon is not interested in discussing this withdrawal. He

said: We want a comprehensive withdrawal of the Israeli, Syrian, and Palestinian forces. However if Israel insists on a partial withdrawal, the areas from which it will withdraw will come under the control of the Lebaense Army — not the multinational force or the Syrian or the Palestinian forces.

Salim Optimistic on Withdrawals

NC172114 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim said in Washington today that neither Israel nor Syria has plans to partition Lebanon. [Beirut Voice of Lebanon Arabic at 2015 GMT on 17 'uly, in a report on Salim's remarks on CBS, notes that "both Syria and Israel"... "aim to partition" Lebanon]. This was contained in a statement that Salim made to the U.S. television network CBS. He expressed his optimism that the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanon will take place within months. He said that Syria did not close the door once and for all, and it expressed interest in holding a dialogue with the United States and Lebanon.

VOL Reports Salim Interview

NC172040 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim has affirmed that the United States still adheres to its stand. He pointed out that the talks with Syria have not reached a deadlock. In an interview with the U.S. television network CBS, according to our correspondent Emil Harb's dispatch tonight, Salim said that both Syria and Israel have ambitions and interests in Lebanon and that they aim to partition it. He added: The most important thing on which we have focused with the U.S. Administration is to find ideas that will convince the Syrian regime with the situation, [as heard] and that Lebanon will remain a nonaligned country. It is worth noting that Minister Salim will deliver a speech tomorrow before the UN Security Council.

Shafiq al-Wazzan Television Interview Reported

NC151150 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0605 GMT 15 Jul 83

["Text" of interview with Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan by program host 'Arafat Hijazi on 14 July Lebanese television program "Behind the News" — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Hijazi] Mr Prime Minister, there is a subject that is persistently being raised — the subject of a partial Israeli withdrawal from some of the occupied areas. This withdrawal has practically begun with the Israeli Army's withdrawal from the Monte Verde position. As a government, how are you going to confront this step which you, Mr Prime Minister, described yesterday as a serious step? And what is the reality of the U.S. stand on this withdrawal?

[Al-Wazzan] I wish to first comment on the withdrawal from Monte Verde. It appears that this operation has been carried out not within the series of partial withdrawals about which they are speaking, nor within the program for complete withdrawal on which we insisted and continue to insist. The Israelis' presence in the area of Monte Verde was completely meaningless. By their presence in the Khaldah area they cut the road to Monte Verde through to the As-Sayyad [publishing] house, Sinn al-Fil, and other areas. For what purpose were they present there? Incidents often took place there. In their movements, they used to pass through the Greater Beirut area which they must evacuate. This subject was constantly raised before the question of complete withdrawals emerged. It appears that the Israelis were convinced, due to our repeated requests, to withdraw from this area. The time in which they were convinced to do so happened to come at the same time as the partial withdrawal process. This is the fact which I wanted to disclose very truthfully.

Going back to the question of withdrawal, we in Lebanon have given to the Palestinian cause what no other people have given. Yasir 'Arafat, 2 or 3 days ago, made a statement to this effect. That was neither the first nor will it be the last statement. However it was a new statement. In view of our state of affairs and the need to ensure withdrawal from our territory — without which, we discovered, fighting, and sedition will continue to rage, and what is happening will fragment Lebanon and affect the unity of the Lebanese, and fighting could shift from one area to another and thus the objectives of those who do not wish Lebanon to be united or independent will be achieved — we hastened to conclude the agreement [with Israel] with the participation of the United States so as to ensure a complete and comprehensive withdrawal. Were it not for the question of complete withdrawal, we would have never aspired to reaching an agreement with Israel. Israel did not accept the agreement with its present clauses as easily as some believe. Israel wanted many more things; however due to the steadfastness of the Lebanese negotiator and his adherence to basic and fundamental national and Arab matters and, with U.S. help, we were able to reach this solution. Despite this, we met with some Arab opposition and even some Lebanese opposition. However, in general, we are reassured that what we have done and are doing is the only way — in the present circumstances and in the existing circumstances of the Arab nation which has not been able to achieve a unified Arab strategy — to rescue Lebanon. It is not only a question of rescuing Lebanon from Israel but also of rescuing Lebanon from this anomalous situation — the state of divisions existing on their territory among themselves, the state of closing one area to another, the situation where the Lebanese cannot move from certain areas to villages, the state of division, forced evacuation, anxiety and the general situation to which you referred in your first question when you asked me how can I be optimistic. It is this situation which we want to eliminate, because eventually, when we are in good health, we will be better able to confront all matters than when we can in the state of weakness which afflicted us since the Arab brothers could not [adopt a stand]. I will not today argue with our Arab brothers as to why they were in such a state. I will only presume that each one of them has his excuse. However, in the final analysis, the question is how we should confront this matter. If I understand their excuse and, therefore, excuse them, they too must understand our situation and excuse us. Otherwise, if they do not excuse us, we in turn will not excuse them and record in the annals of history their stand which has put us in this crisis. Once we understand this, we realize that the

Lebanese Government's objective has been a complete and comprehensive withdrawal.

I agreed to pay something, which I consider insignificant, for the sake of complete withdrawal. If this withdrawal is not complete, we are not prepared to accept this agreement.

Perhaps we were aware beforehand, when we found Israel adopting a stand, outside the agreement, that made the departure of the Syrians or the Palestinians a condition [for an Israeli withdrawal]. The agreement does not require the departure of the Syrians or Palestinians. We absolutely refused to have such a clause included in the agreement because, basically, we do not equate the Israeli presence on our territory with the Palestinian or Syrian presence on our territory. The presence of each party has its own reasons, bases, and implications and the Israeli presence also has its own bases and reasons. However, under all circumstances, the Israeli presence is an occupation in the full sense of the word. Actually, there is still a state of separation and war between us and Israel and our relations are governed by a truce agreement and not by a brotherhood agreement nor by an Arab League charter as exists between us and the Palestinians and the Syrians. Therefore, one must not equate the two, both from a legal or factual standpoint. For this reason, it was absolutely out of question for us to accept mentioning anything of this sort in the agreement. Actually, it was Israel which sent a letter to the Americans saying: If a Syrian or Palestinian withdrawal does not take place, itwould not regard itself as bound by the withdrawal process. It did not say that it will not be bound by the agreement because it wanted to gain from the agreement some things which were a sort of concession in order to ensure the withdrawal. When we became aware of this, we informed the Americans that if they delay their withdrawal and refuse to withdraw for any reason, we shall not be bound by this agreement. We will consider it either null and void or suspended, while preserving our right to pursue the question of ensuring the withdrawal by all means. When I say by all means, I mean that we will be the ones who will choose the method. Will it be a new Arab strategic method? Will it be through the United Nations or through national struggle? We reserve all options.

For this reason, when we found that the Israelis are serious in their stand — that they will not withdraw completely unless the Syrians or the Palestinians withdraw — we, instead of saying that we will ratify the agreement and then suspend it, desisted as of now from ratifying it. This is a sort of an early suspension of the agreement. On this basis, all our stands must be understood. If we today willingly agree to a partial withdrawal, it would be as if we are giving up the idea of complete withdrawal to which the Israelis have committed themselves. Moreover, whether there is an agreement or not, the Israelis are aggressors on our territory. There are UN and Security Council resolutions which dictate unconditional withdrawal on the Israelis. Basically, therefore, this is our right; it is our right that withdrawal take place. This has been endorsed by UN resolutions. This withdrawal must take place. Above all this, there is an agreement which stipulates withdrawal. If after all this, there is no complete withdrawal, we are not prepared to recognize any partial withdrawal or to give our consent to a partial withdrawal, especially because such a withdrawal might benefit Israel in more than one domain, militarily, politically and internationally. Therefore, we are not required to provide Israel with all these privileges by our acceptance of partial withdrawal.

There remains a final point: If Israel wishes to insist on its position despite our stand and our having approached the Americans once and twice — I will not be revealing a secret when I say that Minister Salim's first trip to the United States was within this context; and I will also not be revealing a secret when I say that Shultz who, during his latest trip, came to inform us of the Israeli position with regard to partial withdrawal and who later left us convinced of the soundness of our stand of rejecting partial withdrawal — Israel's insistence on this is based on its own interests. [sentenced as heard]

If Israel wants to carry out partial withdrawal, I will not be surprised if it does not ask for our permission to leave since it did not ask for our permission when it entered to occupy our territory. However, we resort to our conscience in everything we do and in all our actions. We have prepared for all contingencies and our Army is ready to assume its responsibility in every area from which the Israelis withdraw whether with prior notice or not.

[Hijazi] Mr Prime Minister, allow me to ask: You have said that the Army is prepared to fill any security vacuum in any area from which the Israeli army withdraws. However, it is no secret that there are parties concerned in the mountain area who reject any withdrawal unless this withdrawal is linked to a political solution, on the basis of which they will accept the presence of the Army and the multinational forces in the area.

[Al-Wazzan], I am reassured about the Lebanese authority's plan in this regard. I am also reassured about the nationalism and vigilance of the Lebanese people. I do not believe that anyone prefers the Israeli army to stay rather than have the Lebanese Army deployed. I understand the fears that are being expressed. I understand them well. Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said: It is not enough to tell a person not to be afraid so that he will not be afraid. Something must be done. It is our duty to provide all the means that will bring reassurance to everybody because, in the final analysis, we are all Lebanese who seek to liberate their homeland and country, to have stability restored to their areas and to have the people return to their homes and to a normal life.

[Hijazi] Mr Prime Minister, in view of Israel's intention to withdraw to the Al-'Awwali River, there are those who are raising questions about the future of southern Lebanon in light of current practices and realities in the area — including economic, administrative, and military practices; the establishment of fortifications and airports; and flooding the southern market with agricultural products with which the Lebanese economy cannot compete. Furthermore, they are bulldozing whole orchards on the pretext of providing security for the Israeli forces. In light of all this, some major Arab newspapers, for example *Al-Ahram have spoken about partition and have set certain* dates for it. In your opinion, is the situation so serious and will the Israeli withdrawal to the Al-'Awwali River mean that Israel intends to stay in southern Lebanon for good?

[Al-Wazzan] If we link some facts to Israel's old plans, those who have expressed apprehension are right to do so. However, apprehension makes it incumbent on us not to sit down and surrender

to the fait accompli but to double our efforts and marshal our ranks. Hence, the Lebanese authorities' position is to marshal the ranks of all the people so that we will be one rank in the face of the dangers. One of the reasons prompting us to reject a partial withdrawal is fear about the future of southern Lebanon. Our fears for southern Lebanon are some of the main reasons which make us reject a partial withdrawal. However, if this partial withdrawal takes place, are we expected to ask Israel to stay in Khaldah and Ash-Shuf? Of course, we will not do this. But we must exploit this new situation which will arise in the event of a partial Israeli withdrawal in favor of the other parts of the homeland, especially the south, which is a dear part of the homeland. We have repeatedly stated, and many others have repeated with us, that if the south is lost, the essence of Lebanon will be shaken and will face the danger of actual partition. Therefore, in the event that there will be a partial withdrawal, we must increasingly rally around each other. Our defense of the south will be stronger and more efficient the more the sons of the single homeland rally around each other, whether in the event of a partial withdrawal or in the present situation. The more unity and capability Lebanon has — and it cannot be capable except through the unity of its sons — the better we can rescue Lebanon and bypass the dangers.

[Hijazi] Mr Prime Minister, the parties concerned....[as heard] Naturally, Lebanon is in a real predicament. Syria says it does not want to withdraw its forces from Lebanon unless Israel withdraws without a price. This means that Lebanon must abrogate its agreement with Israel so that Syria can withdraw. If we abrogate the agreement, Israel will not withdraw without a price. In your opinion, how can we extricate ourselves from this game? We are now engaged in a crossword puzzle.

[Al-Wazzan] Naturally, what you are calling a predicament really is a predicament. We have been trying to find a way out of this predicament. We have approached all of our brothers. We have also approached sister Syria, and we have approached all our friends. You personally asked me a similar question during a news conference in Paris. You asked me about the world and how we should approach it. I told you that I seize this opportunity to appeal to all states, including the Soviet Union, to help us in our present situation. Many believe that because we have sought U.S. help, we have become aligned in favor of the United States. To those people I say that we have not chosen the United States by lottery or because we like it as a bandaid; we have chosen it because it is capable of putting pressure on Israel. We know that the United States is now more able to cooperate with Israel to bring about a comprehensive withdrawal. However, perhaps there are some interests or some things in the current alliance between the United States and Israel which do not enable the United States to — do not make it want to — put pressure or to follow another plan. However, this does not prevent us from discussing with the U.S. side any quick means for ensuring a withdrawal.

We will ask the United States, we will ask the states of the world, we will ask the Soviet Union, we will ask the Eastern bloc, we will ask all of our friends throughout the world, and we will ask our brothers to help us extricate ourselves from our current predicament. We do not care about the method. If there is a method to make Israel leave other than through the agreement, we welcome it and we encourage anyone who is able to do so. If there are methods side by side with the agreement, we also welcome them.

We seek independence and we seek the Israelis' departure from our land as well as the departure of all non-Lebanese forces from our land. We advocate the restoration of legitimacy — no militia forces from here and there. We want again to be a capable and sovereign state in which the Lebanese will live in justice and equality. This is our objective. If we can get help from the earth, from the sky, or from the stars, we welcome it.

[Hijazi] Mr Prime Minister, Shultz' recent tour of the area and his visit to Lebanon have raised many questions. Can we know what he came to do in the area and what the U.S. attitude is on implementing the agreement? We hear that the United States rejects a partial withdrawal, and then we see that Israeli officials affirm that this matter is ready and only awaits a specific date for implementation.

[Al-Wazzan] In their dealings with others, the great powers might deal with one aspect according to their declared principles. However, believe me — and I have heard this many times — these great powers only act on the basis of their own big interests that they want to achieve. If we asked Shultz why he went to Pakistan, he would certainly not tell us. He declared that he came to directly and personally observe some matters or details of which he had been informed through reports or other channels. Naturally, we could only welcome him. We did not refuse to receive him. What we know is that he came both to observe and to convey Israel's wish and insistence on a partial withdrawal. We informed him of our position. It was not an adamant stand merely for the sake of adopting a stand, but we explained the reasons on which we based our rejection of a partial withdrawal. He was convinced of what we said. He conveyed our stand and tried to persuade the Israelis of it. From the initial Israeli statements we heard in this regard, it seems to us that Israel is ready to accept — or to delay — this matter until the Israeli prime minister goes to the United States. If all indications now are that their determination is final, I don't argue this, but I must take it into consideration during our work, thinking, and discussion of all the possibilities.

[Hijazi] Mr Prime Minister, we have learned that you will be a member of the delegation that will accompany the president on his visit to the United States. How much importance can we attach to this visit, what hopes can the Lebanese pin on it, and will it be decisive in setting a timetable for salvation?

[Al-Wazzan] President Al-Jumayyil did not plan or ask for this visit. He is responding to an invitation sent to him. When one receives an invitation, he is more inclined to accept it than to not accept it, unless he finds that accepting it will be harmful. We have found that acceptance of the invitation in these circumstances might be useful, because the U.S. side will again be faced with its responsibility — particularly since we are in a predicament to which you have referred in a previous question. More importantly, it was the United States which, through its participation in the agreement, took it upon itself to persuade Israel to withdraw. Without this, our issue would have remained at the Security Council, regardless of whether such a thing would have

been useful. We have decided to accept U.S. responsibility and U.S. assurance that the withdrawal will be implemented. We will urge the United States to live up to its responsibility and to act in a way that will help the implementation of all the required withdrawals — especially the Israeli withdrawal, because Israel was the aggressor who entered our territory without our approval and permission.

Other matters also will be discussed during the visit. There are economic aspects and there are aspects dealing with the Lebanese Army, including supplying it with equipment and weapons. Our Army is being equipped by more than one source. Its officers are receiving training in France and the United States. The Lebanese Army is being equipped from several sources. The visit will provide an opportunity to discuss these matters.

Al-Wazzan Stresses Determination To Remain United

GF171330 Doha QNA in Arabic 1115 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Dubayy, 17 Jul (QNA) — Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has stated that Lebanon will remain united through the will of its children and through their determination to achieve that. He indicated that the Lebanese did not pay this dear price in life and property in order to accept partition. He stressed that there is a firm desire among the people to achieve unity and not dispersion which leads to social, economic, and political chaos.

In a statement to the Dubayy paper *Al-Bayan*, he continued — commenting on the clashes which took place the day before yesterday and on the rumors circulating about a partition of Lebanon — that the Lebanese leadership is committed to an united Lebanon. He said the leadership is firm in its commitment to this. He pointed out that all the moves of the Lebanese leaders are designed to preserve the unity of the homeland, of the people, and of the institutions no matter what the risks and the difficulties are.

He added: Either we will be an united country or we do not exist, but by the Almighty's strength, we will.

Al-Wazzan also pointed out in his statement that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil had denounced all views on partition, regarding them to be heresy. Al-Wazzan said: Today I repeat President al-Jumayyil's views.

Junblatt Opposes Syrian 'Security Zone'

NC172210 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, has stressed that he rejects the idea that Syria be given a security zone in Lebanon just as he earlier rejected that Israel be given a similar zone. In a statement to the London-based magazine *Al-Majallah, Junblatt said that the Lebanese-Israeli agreement* will not lead to the withdrawal of the Israelis from Lebanon and will remain ink on paper. He reasserted that a political settlement is the only means that provides a chance for the Lebaense Army to enter the mountain.

Shi'ite Mufti Demands Al-Wazzan's Resignation

NC151813 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Mufti of the Lebanese Shi'ite community Shaykh Qabalan has demanded the resignation of Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan following today's incident. The mufti launched his appeal from a mosque in the southern suburb to protest against the action against Shi'ite squatters at Wadi Abu Jamil. He said that he has taken no action so far, but was giving warning that he rejected the idea of any refugee having to evacuate his domicile.

Amal Leader Calls for National Congress

GF171410 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1320 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Kuwait, 17 Jul (WAKH) — Nabih Birri, leader of the Lebanese Amal Movement, has called for a national congress to solve problems and to reach an accord among the Lebanese people. He said: I support UN Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509 which call for the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, and consequently we oppose the Lebanese-Israeli accord which was arranged by the United States.

In a statement in today's issue of the newspaper *Al-Anba'*, Birri said the accord with Israel gives the south to dissident Major Sa'd Haddad and consequently to Israel. He said this accord exposes Lebanon to two threats: The first is that Israel will not make a total withdrawal, and this will make it a Trojan horse, and the second is the security arrangement which the accord implies aims at hegemonizing the south and its people.

Birri expressed his fear of establishing a Maronite state asking: who is ruling Lebanon, the president or the party? However he affirmed that his movement is with the Lebanese Government based on justice among citizens.

The leader of the Amal Movement reiterated that partial withdrawal means that Israel will keep the south and only expand Greater Beirut.

On the visit which Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil will make to Washington, he said: We support every move by the president which will lead to comprehensive withdrawals and the implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions.

In reply to a question whether the Husayn Musavi movement the Islamic Amal movement is a splinter of the Amal Movement, Birri said: Husayn Musavi is not a dissident from Amal. He does not have any relationship with Amal and Amal has no relationship with him. He dissented from it a long time ago, he said.

Two Israeli Soldiers Killed by Syrian Missile

JN161616 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Newspaper correspondents in southern Lebanon say that two Israeli soldiers were killed and four others injured north of

Jubb Jannin town, north Lebanon, when a missile which was launched from behind the Syrian lines in the area struck their vehicle. They also said that the Israeli forces stationed in this area 5 km from the Syrian and Palestinian lines came under fire from the Syrian lines and that the Israeli forces answered the fire. The exchange of fire lasted for 30 minutes.

3 IDF Soldiers Wounded; Guarded Calm Prevails

NC170829 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Excerpts] Security sources have revealed that three Israeli soldiers were wounded during the shelling of various areas in the southern suburb of the capital. These sources said the three Israeli soldiers were in a military jeep in a convoy passing along Camille Sham'un Boulevard.

A guarded calm now prevails in the areas that were the scene of yesterday's clashes in the mountain.

The clashes which broke out in 'Ayn 'Ikrin-Bziza area in Al-Kurah and in (Shnata) and Dayr Billa in Al-Batrun ridges stopped at 0600

IDF Patrol Attacked, 2 Soldiers Reportedly Killed

NC171424 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Excerpts] Lebanese National Resistance men this morning carried out a new operation. At 0630 today, an enemy patrol was attacked in the 'Ayn 'Nub area with rockets and medium-caliber weapons. Two enemy soldiers were reportedly killed and three others were wounded. Helicopters were seen evacuating the casualties. An enemy unit cordoned off and combed the area and arrested many people. During the search two residents were killed, one of them from the As-Suqi family and the other from the Bu Na'im family. The Israeli forces, as we already said, cordoned off the area and asked the residents to gather in the village square.

AFP quoted a military source in Jerusalem as saying that two enemy soldiers were killed and seven others were wounded.

The enemy forces this morning cut the highway between Bhamdun and Ruwaysat Sawfar and the 'Aramun-Bshamun road. Security sources linked this action with the operation which took place this morning against the enemy.

Meanwhile, three collaborators with the Israeli enemy were executed in 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp last night. They are As'ad and Nasir Qabalawi and Ahmad 'Arrabi.

Bursts of gunfire from medium-caliber weapons have been heard since 1045 today in the Ash-Shuwayfat area. A security source has reported that an exchange of fire is taking place between Kafr Shima and Ash-Shuwayfat.

VOL Reports Syrians, Israelis Exchange Fire

NC172028 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Tension has again returned to the Syrian and Israeli positions in Al-Biqa' in the wake of an exchange of bullets this evening between the Ad-Dawsah Heights and the area north of Jubb Jannin. There are no reports on casualties.

Ba'th Party Center in Tripoli Shelled, 1 Dead

NC172116 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] A security source reported that an RPG shell was fired at the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party center in Tripoli at 2130 this evening, killing Majid Barri, who was standing at the entrance of the center, and injuring Samir 'Abdallah, Ziyad Darwish, and Muhammad Dirgham, who were standing near him. They were all taken to Al-Mazlum hospital.

Army Command Explains 15 July Beirut Fighting

NC151950 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Excerpt] The Army Command Guidance Directorate issued the following statement this evening: Acting on a legal verdict concerning the evacuation from the Alliance School in Wadi Abu Jamil of its occupier investor, [Mustathmiriha al-Muhtal] who had earlier tried to evacuate the school at the end of the scholastic year after his investment lease expired, an Internal Security Forces patrol went to the aforementioned area this morning to notify this occupant that he must return the school to its owners, Tabbarah and Nusuli, on Monday, 18 July 1983.

When the patrol reached the place, a number of the people residing in the area demonstrated and crowded around the patrol. Accordingly, an Army patrol was sent to examine the situation. It was confronted by a group of gunmen armed with machineguns and RPG's. When the patrol tried to dispere the demonstrators, these gunmen fired on it injuring a number of the patrol members. During the incident, armed elements were present on certain streets. Army reinforcements were sent, and they took control of the situation.

The firing on the Army resulted in the following: Soldiers 'Abdallah 'Abd al-Majid and Khalid Isbar were martyred, and a number of military men were injured. Some of the gunmen were martyred, and a number of military men were injured. Some of the gunmen were detained and handed over to the military prosecution for interrogation. A quantity of arms and ammunition was confiscated.

The Army is now in full control of the situation. The Army and the Internal Security Forces have received orders to confront any attempt aimed at disturbing security or endangering the citizens' lives.

Army Deploys in Vacated Israeli Positions
NC151802 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] A Lebanese Army force comprised of 50 officers and men supported by vehicles has been stationed in the positions vacated by the Israelis in Khaldah.

Agreement Ratification by Al-Jumayyil Cited
JN151435 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] It was officially announced in Beirut today that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil has ratified the agreement of submission that the Lebanese authorities concluded with the Zionist enemy last May. The Lebanese president's ratification of this agreement comes at a time when the Lebanese nationalist forces and the majority of the Lebanese people have declared their rejection of this agreement, which encroaches on Lebanon's sovereignty and greatly harms its Arab relations.

Commentary Calls for Lebanese Front Formation
JN151459 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Day after day we find increasing evidence that the Lebanese Government is being subjugated to the Israeli will and is implementing Israel's demands and realizing its aims, particularly those demands and aims which are connected with spreading the factional domination of this regime in the Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh areas from which Israel is intending to withdraw. While Israel is preparing to withdraw its forces from these two areas, the Lebanese Government is preparing its Phalangist elements to replace the Israeli forces directly or in the uniform of the Lebanese Army soldiers. This will be in accordance with an agreement which has been reached between this government and the Zionist enemy through the recent deliberations with U.S. envoy Philip Habib.

Today, the Zionists are defending the plan of replacing their forces by the Lebanese Army forces in Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh. In order to understand the aim behind their defending the plan, we must recall the stand they took 10 months ago, in September 1982 and in the following months, when they prevented the Lebanese Army from being deployed in these two areas to stop the violent clashes there. This clearly means that over the past 10 months, the Lebanese Government has been trying to take all the necessary measures to spread its control over these areas in accordance with Zionist desires which are commensurate with the factional interests and the expansionist aims which this government is trying to realize.

The behavior of this government has reached such an extent that it has become difficult to separate this behavior from that of the enemy and of its aggressive, expansionist designs in Lebanon. This government did not hesitate to involve the Lebanese Army in arrangements aimed to place the Lebanese areas either under the domination of the occupation forces or under the control of the factional government forces which are called the Lebanese Army and which are in reality the Phalangist forces. It is a plan to divide Lebanon and to place its southern part under a permanent Israeli occupation. All the honorable Lebanese nationalists should confront and foil this plan through a national front with a program of struggle that would realize the unity of the Lebanese people and territory, promote the Lebanese national resistance, and foil all attempts aimed against its sovereignty and independence no matter whether these attempts are within the framework of implementing the Israeli-Lebanese agreement or within other agreements with the Zionist enemy.

All the Lebanese people must rise to the level of their national responsibility by organizing their action and persisting in their struggle within a single, unified front that would pool all the resources and represent all the Lebanese national demands which range from resisting the Zionist invaders to the realization of the nation's unity, sovereignty and independence.

Naturally, Syria will not hesitate to back all efforts aimed to establish this front and to promote its work. Syria will not spare its efforts to foil all the plots which are being prepared by the Zionist enemies with the help of the Lebanese Government and the immense encouragement of the United States.

Syria will adhere to its principled stand toward the fraternal Lebanese people. It will not change regardless of the situation and circumstances. This is because of Syria's awareness of its immense pan-Arab responsibility which makes it incumbent on it to remain the Syria of the Arabs, the twin sister of Lebanon, and the champion of struggle and liberation.

Nabih Birri Attacks Lebanese Government
JN161526 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1430 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Beirut, 16 Jul (SANA) — Lawyer Nabih Birri, leader of the Amal movement, has sharply criticized the Lebanese Government and called on it to resign. He also held it responsible for shedding the blood of innocent people in Beirut yesterday.

Birri has affirmed that his movement will not tolerate the loss of the homeland and Phalangist hegemony over the government and said that he is in permanent touch with all the nationalist forces and the progressive and nationalist political figures to keep an eye on the developments in the Lebanese arena with the aim of taking appropriate nationalist positions toward them.

During his press conference today, the leader of the Amal movement praised the Lebanese people's positive reaction to the call for staging a strike. He also called on the Lebanese Government to release dozens of prisoners, which the Lebanese authority detained yesterday.

Birri also denounced the Israeli repressive actions, adding that the Israeli invasion forces opened fire on the strikers in Tyre yesterday, killing and wounding a number of Lebanese citizens.

Muhsin Ibrahim on Agreement, Occupation
JN161645 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1450 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Beirut, 16 Jul (SANA) — Muhsin Ibrahim, secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Action Organization, has praised the success of the general strike, which the Lebanese progressive forces had called for and said that the comprehensive and successful strike expressed a categorical national rejection of the agreement concluded with the Zionist enemy, a determination to resist repression, and an increasing uprising against that

agreement and the factional Phalangist hegemony. In a statement he issued today, Ibrahim stressed the need for an urgent national detente against the Israeli occupation, the agreement imposed on Lebanon, and the factional Phalangist hegemony.

He also called for achieving a comprehensive political solution based on a real unity and equality among all the disputing parties for the sake of liberating Lebanon, regaining its sovereignty, renewing its unity, safeguarding its national and Arabic identity, and preserving democracy in it.

Soviet Delegation To Visit Damascus 'Shortly'

GF161150 Kuwait Al-Hadaf in Arabic 15 Jul 83 p 1

["Exclusive" report]

[Excerpt] Informed Palestinian sources have disclosed that a high-level Soviet delegation will visit Damascus shortly to hold talks with Syrian officials on Syrian-Palestinian differences. The sources said this decision has been conveyed to the Palestinian delegation visiting Moscow led by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department.

The sources said in Damascus the Soviet delegation will discuss the new developments in Syrian-Palestinian relations and the situation in Al-Biqa', in view of the recent Israeli insinuations they will exploit the situation with the advent of the U.S. presidential election campaign.

Delegation Due in 24 Hours

LD162243 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] a Soviet delegation will arrive in Damascus within the next 24 hours on an official visit of several-days to Syria, during which it will direct a series of talks with Syrian senior officials concerning the current sitaution in the area in light o[illegible] the current developments in both the Lebanese and Palestinian arenas, in addition to a number of international developments and issues of mutual interest.

Official Leaves for Tehran With Message

JN171124 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs, left Damascus this afternoon for Tehran with a message to Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i from President Hafiz al-Asad on the development of the situation in the region.

Foreign Minister Khaddam Returns From Abu Dhabi

JN180558 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned from Abu Dhabi last night following a short visit during which he delivered a message to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan from President Hfiz al-Asad.

AL-BA'TH Discusses U.S. Middle East Plan

JN180845 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 18 Jul 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The U.S. Plan and the Decision of Confrontation," *Al-Ba'th* says: The new link of the U.S. plan in the Middle East is now focusing on the Lebanese issue; to be more specific, on the Syrian forces' withdrawal from Lebanon. The White House is preparing for the Lebanese president's visit to the U.S. capital, and later, for enemy Prime Minister Menahem Begin's visit.

According to reports from Washington, the Lebanese negotiator has put the contract of submission aside, along with the discussions that are preparatory to Al-Jumayyil's visit, and concentrated on specific ideas to force Syria to withdraw from Lebanon.

Certainly, such ideas cannot be made public before their implementation, but the indicators which have preceded them and what appears on the horizon point out that the U.S. Administration has relied on the alternatives, about which it has been talking and on which it has made its final decision. They are the alternatives that serve the U.S. plan and, consequently, the Zionist ambitions and the strategic alliance between the United States and the Zionists.

Al-Ba'th adds: If we try to name or designate these alternatives, we can say that they represent the use of force on which the U.S. Administration has relied in an attempt to subjugate the free Arab will in favor of the U.S. plan. This course was reactivated after a lull, through which the Reagan administration tried to appear as if it is concerned about peace; but it was a false attempt, because this administrration has never proved its neutrality toward the Arab-Zionist conflict, which is the crux of the Middle East problem.

Therefore, the sabre rattling and the talk about new ideas explain that the U.S. Administration has made its final decision on the alternatives, whose implementation will be completed during the reception of Al-Jumayyil and Begin. We expect an unusual week, especially after the sudden reannouncement of the Jordanian option in light of these ideas and the overt alliance between the hangman of Baghdad and Husni Mubarak, who is the inheritor of the treasonous course of Camp David. This means that the coming days will be complementary to the U.S. plan, which will be crowned by the explosion of the military situation in Lebanon.

Al-Ba'th concludes: Those are the alternatives the Reagan administration talked about and will try to implement. The Arab masses, who have never sought alternatives to confront the U.S. stands and the agent regimes, strongly and resolutely support the free Arab will which Syria possesses to foil the U.S. alternatives and to safeguard the readiness of the principled and firm Arab decision on confrontation and steadfastness.

7 IDF Soldiers Wounded in Lebanon Ambush

TA172122 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Seven IDF soldiers were wounded this morning when their patrol was fired upon in an ambush near the village of 'Ayn 'Nub southwest of Beirut. Two of the soldiers sustained serious wounds, while the other five were slightly wounded. Their families have been notified.

The IDF spokesman has reported that immediately after the incident, the area was searched and roadblocks were set up. A local car tried to run one of the roadblocks, refusing to comply with the demand that they stop. The soldiers shot at it, killing both its passengers. The IDF is investigating the incident.

IDF 'Warning Shots' Kill Tyre Demonstrator

TA161017 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] In Tyre, southern Lebanon, a resident was shot dead by IDF soldiers today. The IDF spokesman has reported that near the central square in Tyre, an IDF patrol encountered local inhabitants who set tires on fire, blocked the road, and created a disturbance.

They were asked to disperse, but when they refused the soldiers fired several warning shots, killing one of the demonstrators. Several other demonstrators were detained for questioning.

Lebanon's Al-Jumayyil Reportedly Signs Agreement

TA151410 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil today signed the agreement between Israel and Lebanon. Now in order to implement the agreement, the two governments must exchange the agreement's documents, but a date for doing so has not yet been set.

U.S. Troops May Occupy IDF-Vacated Areas

TA170521 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] The United States may station some of its troops in the areas vacated by the IDF in Lebanon, our correspondent in Washington has learned. To this end, the U.S. contingent in the multinational force would be enlarged.

In contacts between Israeli representatives and State and Defense Department officials in Washington, the Americans were persuaded that the Lebanese Army cannot maintain security on its own in the areas that would be vacated by the IDF.

Redeployment Divides Military, Political Leaders

TA151237 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 15 Jul 83 p 14

[Article by Yehuda Litani in "Political Diary" column: "Differences of Approach Between the Echelons"]

[Text] Differences of opinion — or more precisely differences in approach — have recently come to the fore between the political echelon and the security echelon with regard to the redeployment in Lebanon. Whereas the political echelon believes that the redeployment should be carried out in stages, the security echelon believes that the withdrawal to the Al-'Awwali River should be carried out in one move.

The security echelon believes that a withdrawal in stages would be very costly, take a long time, and would not be helpful in extricating the IDF from the disputed area between the Christians and Druze, because after the first stage of the withdrawal the IDF would still be in some of the battle zones between Christians and Druze. The political echelon, on the other hand, deems a withdrawal in stages necessary in order to get Lebanon to agree to a partial withdrawal (Lebanon's fears are complex: It is afraid its troops will be incapable of controlling the areas abandoned by the IDF, and it also fears that the IDF presence in the south up to the Al-'Awwali River may become permanent). Only with a gradual step-by-step process can the Lebanese Army control the areas now held by the IDF.

The Cabinet is scheduled to decide the matter in advance of Menahem Begin's trip to Washington. One way or the other, the defense minister's mind is firmly made up. In the coming days he will make his recommendation to the Cabinet to proceed with redeployment in Lebanon on the basic principle of a withdrawal from the Ash-Shuf mountains and from the Beirut vicinity.

Ministers Complain About Delay

TA171011 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 17 Jul 83 pp 1, 11

[Report by political correspondent Ilan Kfir]

[Text] Cabinet ministers have recently expressed discontent about what they called "the procrastination in adopting a decision on the redeployment in Lebanon." In talks with the *Ma'ariv* correspondent, the ministers complained about the long delay in the discussion by the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs regarding the redeployment in Lebanon. Since the discussion preceding the Shultz visit, Mr Begin has refrained from convening the ministers and concluding the debate.

Minister Without Portfolio Mordekhay Ben-Porat, the initiator of the unilateral withdrawal plan, may raise this issue in the Cabinet in view of the ongoing delay and the lack of a decision. It is believed in Jerusalem that the prime minister will initiate the concluding debate soon, and that at the end of it a decision in principle on redeployment will be made, although the IDF's

"crawling" back or slow pullback has already begun in the area, in the direction of the new deployment lines.

Lebanese figures have recently appealed to Israel to postpone its withdrawal from the Ash-Shuf mountains in view of the deterioration in the intersectorial confrontation there.

Begin's Office Denies Receiving Husayn Message

TA170758 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0742 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Excerpts] The prime minister's office is unaware of any message sent by King Husayn to Prime Minister Begin according to which the king is willing to resume political contacts with Israel, the prime minister's adviser on communications and foreign press Uri Porat told *Ma'ariv*. Nevertheless, the prime minister's personal secretary, Yehi'el Qadishay, told our correspondent that Hubert Humphrey's son and Mark Segal briefed the prime minister on their talk with King Husayn during their visit to Israel. Qadishay refused to disclose the contents of the briefing.

Reacting to the same report, the prime minister's office told *Yedi'ot Aharonot that Husayn had not sent any personal message* to Begin and therefore a response was not required from the prime minister. The prime minister's office added that there was nothing new in the report relayed by the two U.S. visitors, and that Husayn's willingness in principle to join the peace process had been known for a long time.

Yedi'ot Aharonot writes that a similar report was conveyed by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz upon his return from a visit to Jordan last month. Nevertheless, the Americans believe Husayn will not take any practical measures to join the peace process in the near future.

Cabinet Discusses Husayn Message

TA171126 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1110 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Excerpts] The Cabinet session has ended and our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that the possibility that King Husayn may join the peace process in the area was raised in the meeting. At the end of the meeting, the Cabinet secretary said that Israel once again invites King Husayn to join the peace process. Let us go to our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer:

[Schiffer] Indeed, at the end of the Cabinet session, Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor confirmed that in reply to questions by the ministers the prime minister confirmed the report we broadcast this morning, according to which Hubert Humphrey Jr and former aide to U.S. President Jimmy Carter Mark Segal discussed with him a message conveyed by King Husayn a few days ago about the possibility that he is now willing to discuss and join the peace process. The ministers were briefed on this, and the Cabinet secretary confirmed the report at the end of the Cabinet session. Let us listen to Dan Meridor's remarks and our questions.

[Begin recording] [Meridor] At the beginning of today's session, the ministers asked some questions on various political and economic issues. The prime minister, the foreign minister, the defense minister, and the finance minister replied to the questions. You understand that I cannot refer to what was or was not said in meetings with various representatives, including Mr Humphrey, who indeed called on the prime minister. However, our position was and still remains that we want Husayn to participate in the negotiations and we will be glad if he does. If King Husayn really intends to come and talk to us about a peace treaty — we have invited him more than once, ever since Camp David — we will be glad to receive him.

[Schiffer] Is the prime minister also now ready to publicly invite King Husayn to come and discuss future peace between the two countries?

[Meridor] The prime minister has invited King Husayn — I do not think I am exaggerating — dozens of times, on television, in the press, and from the Knesset podium — almost from every possible forum. I do not think that the problem is the absence of an invitation on the part of the prime minister. Since — and even before — Camp David, we laid the foundation for such deliberations,and we are inviting King Husayn to come for talks between us.

[Schiffer] Mr Meridor, what is the status of the plan for the IDF's redeployment in Lebanon?

[Meridor] As is known, this issue is currently being discussed,and when and if a decision is made it will be carried out. [end recording]

[Schiffer] It appears that some sort of debate is currently taking place at the prime minister's office because the defense minister has not yet left, and senior IDF officers have arrived at the prime minister's office. It is only possible to speculate that the debate revolves around the IDF's redeployment in Lebanon. The defense minister arrived early this morning before the Cabinet session, and later the navy commander showed up. It appears that the latter sought a clarification in talks with the defense minister's aide-de-camp.

More on Cabinet Session

TA171550 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1510 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer in the studio]

[Excerpts] According to some ministers, today's Cabinet session was conducted in a rather original way: a question-and-answer format. The prime minister, the foreign minister, and the defense minister did not report to their colleagues. Rather, they merely provided answers to questions based on reports and rumors that preceded the session.

Following are a few examples: Mordekhay Ben-Porat asked Prime Minister Menahem Begin: Is there any truth to the reports that you have received a message from King Husayn? The prime minister replied more or less thus: My guests from the United States have indeed told me that Husayn had told them

that in light of what has recently taken place in the PLO, the conditions and circumstances in the Middle East have altered, and he now feels that the conditions for peace have been created. Our meeting lasted about 30 minutes, and one can hardly say that this would yield a peace initiative.

Ben-Porat: So what do we plan to do? The prime minister said: We have always said that we are seeking peace, and this readiness holds true even now.

Basically, government elements made efforts this afternoon to minimize the importance of the matter, but one must note that analysts who deal with this matter have been observed to hold different views, and these were far less disdainful.

Let us return to the Cabinet session: Another question, presented by Yitzhaq Moda'i, referred to the IDF redeployment in Lebanon, to which the prime minister replied that the debate in the ministerial committee will continue as early as this week. Gid'on Pat requested that the decision be made by the entire Cabinet plenum, and Menahem Begin agreed.

Gid'on Pat addressed Yitzhaq Shamir and asked: Is it true that late last week you met with an African personality in Europe? As will be recalled, the foreign minister secretly met in Geneva with Ivory Coast President Houpouet-Boigny. Minister Shamir refused to either confirm or deny this. Gid'on Pat insisted: So what am I supposed to answer, as a minister in the Israeli Cabinet, if I am asked about this? Shamir declined comment.

The defense minister was asked about the regulations regarding opening fire at terrorists, and this came in view of a report on this published on this over the weekend. He replied briefly.

More details on the Cabinet session: Minister Hayim Corfu wanted to propose something about the financing of the elections to the local authorities, which he claimed has the support of all the larger parties. The proposal states that the elections to the local authorities will cost somewhere between 800 million shekels to 1 billion shekels. Minister Uzan, however, said that while the finance minister intends to cut the government budget, not even one agora should be allocated to finance these elections. Instead, he suggested that the parties raise the funds themselves, and Ministers Ne'eman, Pat, and Hammer seconded this demand. The Cabinet deferred decision on this matter until next week.

Labor Criticizes Attitude Toward Husayn Signals

TA171138 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] The Labor Party is calling on the government to stop taking an indifferent and derisive view of Jordanian signals to negotiate with Israel. The party's reactions team says that the government's ignoring these signals points to obtuseness or to the intention to make a desperate effort to take control of the entire West Bank.

Peres Discusses Jordanian Overtures

TA171842 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Labor Party leader Shim'on Peres says King Husayn's remarks show that the Reagan initiative is not dead. He told our reporter Jack Katzenell if the Jordanians come to the negotiating table and insist on proposing a partial freeze on settlement, Israel should not refuse to deal with the issue.

[Begin Recording] [Peres] The Likud is for the annexation of the West Bank, and we are against the annexation of the West Bank. So I would not look at the map settlement by settlement, but I would look at the situation from the policy, from the overall settlement point of view. And I do believe that a settlement which will include an element of compromise is still a viable approach to the solution of the problem.

[Katzenell] So the king appears to be a little freer, if I can put it that way, because of the internal problems of the PLO. Is there anything Israel can do in your opinion to encourage him —to make him stronger vis-a-vis his brother Arabs, the other Arab countries, and the threat to him in the Arab world?

[Peres] Yes. I think the most helpful approach will be a different policy in the territories. When you are talking about the Jordanian option, let us not forget that the right place to start this option is in the territories themselves, which means we can encourage the Arabs to handle their own affairs, to encourage the pro-Jordanian elements in the territories, to encourage the leaders in the territories to come to terms with the king, and together to negotiate with Israel. [end recording]

IDF POW's Visited by Red Cross Officials

TA171717 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1510 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] A delegation of International Red Cross [IRC] officials met 2 days ago with the six Israeli prisoners held by Fatah. The meeting was not attended by the captors. The IRC spokesman in Geneva reported that the six are in satisfactory condition, and our correspondent says that the six are now once again being held in one place, whereas over the past month they were kept for a certain time in solitary confinement. Here are further details, brought by our correspondent Mikha Friedman:

[Begin recording] The Geneva convention stipulates that the IRC members are entitled to visit prisoners of war once every 3 weeks, but still the time that elapsed between the meeting 2 days ago and the one preceding it was precisely 4 months. An IRC delegation met with the six Israeli prisoners, held captive by Fatah in the place where they are being held, somewhere in the Lebanese Al-Biqa'. That meeting took place on 15 March. At that time, all six of them were kept together. Then the official communication lines with the six were cut off, although Western reporters and television crewmen had since met several times with various compositions of the group of prisoners. Thus, for

example, on 10 June — still in Al-Biqa' — such a meeting took place, but only with four prisoners. The two others, it turned out, were separated from the group and transferred elsewhere. A few days later, a Western journalist interviewed captive Dani Gilbo'a, who related that even these four prisoners were kept individually and were being held in solitary.

In the meeting 2 days ago, all six again turned up together, but this time the meeting did not take place in Al-Biqa', but rather in Tripoli, apparently — the bastion of the 'Arafat loyalists. The prisoners told the IRC delegation that the confinement was only extended over a few days, and was in a way in retaliation to various incidents that occurred at that time in the Ansar camp.

The physician among the delegation members examined the six and found them to be in sound medical condition. The prisoners themselves testified to be in good spirits. They complained of having had only one meal a day during the month of Ramadan, after sunset, like the Muslims, and that even then the food was bland and sparse. The prisoners asked their relatives to send them recent pictures from home, and also gave the IRC representaves letters which are now on their way to their parents.

The negotiations toward the release of our prisoners is currently at a dead end. In addition to the six being held captive by Fatah, another two are being held by Jibril's organization and are probably kept in Damascus. They met with IRC people only once. Another three prisoners are held in Syria, but this is a separate affair that has nothing to do with the above.

The rebellion in Fatah ranks against 'Arafat's leadership evidently does nothing to promote the chances for an early release. Another obstacle to advancing the negotiations is the fact that Israel has not yet decided which PLO demands to accept, and which to reject. The PLO conditions for the release of our prisoners, as will be recalled, are the following three: The release of the Ansar detainees; the return of the archives belonging to the Palestinian Studies Center, captured in Beirut; and the release of some 1,200 terrorists who are in Israeli prisons.

Once the decision is made, it looks as though yet another step will have to be implemented, and Israel has thus far avoided it. It will entail a direct meeting between an official, senior Israeli representative — Shmu'el Tamir, for example — and an authorized PLO representative, to discuss face to face the overall demands and what can be attained in return for compliance with them:The release of the eight prisoners.

Arens on Settlements, Peaceful Coexistence

TA171654 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] The need of the hour is settlement in all of Eretz Yisra'el, Defense Minister Moshe Arens said a short while ago. At the same time, he made it clear that we must extend a hand to our Arab neighbors in order to create the conditions for peaceful coexistence. Arens was speaking at a ceremony marking the conversion of the Samaria Nahal outpost, Hermesh, to a civilian settlement. Our correspondent reported the defense minister's remarks.

[Begin Arens recording] We answered the question a long time ago whether we can, or we must, or whether we want to settle in areas also inhabited by Arabs. We want to settle — we must settle in all of Eretz Yisra'el. This is vital for our security. This is the need facing every youth in Israel today.

In addition to the need to settle, however, I want to stress another need. We want to and we must live in peace — and also in friendship — with our Arab neighbors. And wherever we settle we must extend our hand in peace to them. [end recording]

Begin Reportedly Unhappy About U.S. Visit

TA151155 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 15 Jul 83 p 14

[Article by Yehuda Litani in the "Political Diary" Column: "A Visit Which is Out of No Choice"]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin said to one of his friends this week that he has no desire to go to the United States at the end of the month. I have never before been in such a state, said Begin to that friend. I am going willy-nilly, because if I do not make the trip, people may draw the wrong conclusions. I see no useful purpose, no rhyme or reason for the visit. I think I should stay in Israel.

The prime minister is quite right. In contrast to his previous visits to the United States, the present one is devoid of all drama. In the past, what with an undertone of acerbity in the U.S. administration, there was drama and tension — how would the administration leaders talk to the prime minister? Would they talk tough or go gentle? Now there is practically nothing left to put the finishing touches to with the administration leaders in Washington. The agreement with Lebanon has already been signed. The prime minister will say to Reagan that Israel wishes to begin a redeployment in Lebanon, and the President will say that the United States has no objection, provided Lebanon concurs. Things that have been said time and again by Ambassador Lewis, Ambassador Habib, and Secretary of State Shultz.

For President Reagan, such a visit may be helpful in the forthcoming election campaign. More smiles on the lawn of the White House, more declarations of friendship — and nothing else. Washington is well aware of Menahem Begin's somber mood and there, too, apparently the attitude is one of a depressing duty. Neither side is keen on it, and both wish to get it over with as quickly as possible.

Defense Ministry Set To Buy 75 F-16's

TA171102 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 17 Jul 83 p 3

[Report by military correspondent Yosef Walter]

[Text] Israel will fully carry out the deal with the United States for the purchase of 75 F-16's. This decision was made at the end of last week by the Defense Ministry's leadership with the approval of the Finance Ministry.

The deal for the purchase of advanced U.S. F-16's was agreed upon following long discussions between the Defense and Finance Ministries. There were hesitations whether to exercise the option to purchase all 75 planes. Some claimed that the scope of the deal should be restricted since Israel would be unable to shoulder all the expenses involved in buying all 75 aircraft and the attendant components of the deal. The factor that tipped the scales was the strengthening of the Arab air forces.

Syria, for instance, has already replaced everything it lost in the Peace for Galilee operation, trained many pilots, and procured additional aircraft from the Soviet Union. Syrian self-confidence increased following the introduction of the Soviet SAM-5 missiles into the Lebanese Al-Biqa'.

The agreement to purchase the U.S. F-16's will be signed with the United States at the end of the month. This will be the largest deal Israel has ever made, and will cost about $3 billion. The are supposed to be delivered to Israel beginning in 1986. The negotiations between Israel and the United States for the purchase of the F-16's had been frozen in the wake of the Peace for Galilee war after President Reagan announced the suspension of the negotiations. About 2 months ago, the U.S. Administration lifted the freeze, but there were additional delays in view of Israel's doubts about exercising the entire option. Israel's demand that some parts of the F-16 be produced in Israel also contributed to the delay in negotiations.

Ma'ariv has learned that now, on the eve of signing the agreement, the U.S. Administration has agreed to allow the production of some parts of the plane in Israel.

Delegation Holds Further Talks in Moscow

TA171245 Tel Aviv Yedi'ot Aharonot in Hebrew 17 Jul 83 pp 1,6

[Report from Moscow by Beni Barbash]

[Text] MK Shulamit Aloni yesterday asked the representatives of the "Soviet Peace Committee" to influence the Kremlin authorities to allow Aliyah activists Ida Nudel and Yosef Bigon, who were refused exit visas, to emigrate to Israel. MK Aloni said that this would be a goodwill gesture and a first move toward lessening the hostility between the Soviet and Israeli peoples.

The meeting, which was held in Moscow, was attended on the Israeli side by MK's Aharon Har'el and Shulamit Aloni, as well as this reporter. As for the Soviet side, the general secretary of the International Peace Committee, Khorokhodin and Izvestiya's senior commentator Konstantinovich Ivanov, both members of the Supreme Soviet, participated. The meeting was conducted in a friendly atmosphere.

The Soviet representatives expressed fear at the increasing East-West arms race, claiming that Israel constitutes an important element in this race. They charged that in ignoring the need to solve the Palestinian problem, Israel perpetuates the Israeli-Arab conflict. Konstantin Ivanov, who had recently returned from a visit to Arab countries, said: It was desirable to have talksbetween Israel and the Palestinians yesterday. Today this is still possible, but tomorrow it may be too late."

The Israeli delegation said that the Soviet Union plays an important role in resolving the Israeli-Arab conflict and that the two countries should find ways to resume their relations, at least in the commercial and cultural spheres initially. The Israeli representatives protested the anti-Semitic publications by the Soviet Peace Committee. Major General Mati Peled, reserves, who participated in the delegation, asked the Soviets to arrange for him a meeting with the PLO representative in Moscow in order to promote the issue of exchanging prisoners between Israel and this organization. Prior to the delegation's departure from Israel, on Friday, Peled met with a representative of the prisoners' families who requested that he aid them on this matter.

Yesterday afternoon, I visited the Moscow synagogue together with Har'el, Aloni, and Rakah's secretary, 'Uzi Burstein. Tens of Jews approached us and spoke with us excitedly. The members of the Israeli delegation promised them they would make every effort to ease emigration to Israel for those who were refused Aliyah. The Israeli delegation will visit Kiev and Leningrad in the coming days.

Foreign Debt Said To Reach Record High

TA171808 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Israel's foreign debt reached a record total of $21 billion at the end of March this year, nearly half of which is owed to the United States. Data released today by the Bank of Israel show that since December 1982, the debt has increased by $154 million.

Our economic affairs correspondent, Gadi Sukenik, reports that in the first quarter of 1983, the government's debts grew while those of the private sector declined somewhat. During this fiscal year, Israel will have to pay a total $2.5 billion in principal and interest payments. This amount exceeds the sum of aid that Israel received from the United States in 1982.

Our correspondent says that the prime minister will present this figure on his coming trip to the United States when he asks for an inccrease in U.S. aid, and especially in the grant portion.

OAU Bureau Meets To Discuss Situation in Chad

Guinean, Nigerian Delegates Arrive

AB151658 Paris AFP in English 1414 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Addis Ababa, July 15 (AFP) — Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure and Nigerian Foreign Minister Ishaya Audu arrived in the Ethiopian capital here today for a meeting of the nine-nation Organization of African Unity (OAU) Bureau called to consider the Chadian situation.

President Sekou Toure is the only head of state, other than host and current OAU chairman Lieutenant-Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam of Ethiopia, expected here for the Bureau meeting.

Delegations from Gabon, Djibouti, Algeria, Zimbabwe and Swaziland, the other member states of the Bureau chaired by Ethiopia, are expected to fly in before the opening session.

The meeting is now to devote itself exclusively to consideration of the conflict in Chad, where Hissein Habre's government forces are pitted against those of former President Goukouni Oueddei, according to interim OAU Secretary-General Peter Onu.

Speculation that the issue of Western Sahara would also be considered has now been ruled out entirely.

Mengistu Receives Delegates

EA160443 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and of COPWE, commander in chief of the Revolutionary Army and current chairman of the OAU, held talks today with President Ahmed Sekou Toure of the People's Republic of Guinea. The meeting, which took place at the National Palace this morning, centered on issues relating to the African Continent.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam also received a message sent by Comrade Sassou-Nguesso, the leader of the People's Republic of the Congo. In a ceremony held at the National Palace this morning, Comrade (Basile Ekobe Bokongo), special adviser to the president, delivered the message to Comrade Chairman Mengistu. The message dealt with African issues, bilateral relations, and the friendship which exists between Socialist Ethiopia and the People's Republic of the Congo.

In addition, Comrade Chairman Mengistu received the foreign minister of Nigeria, Professor Ishaya Audu, and Ahmed Taleb Ibrahim, the foreign minister of Algeria, who are here to attend the OAU Bureau meeting. Speaking with them individually, he discussed the Bureau meeting, which is devoted to the serious Chadian problem.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam also received a message from President Hissein Habre, the leader of the Republic of Chad. The message was delivered by Mr (Ahmad Coromo), deputy minister in the Chadian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The deputy minister briefed Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam on the current situation in Chad.

In a speech he made while receiving his visitors and holding talks with them on an individual basis, our comrade revolutionary leader said that both Socialist Ethiopia and he himself as current OAU chairman will make every effort to solve the Chadian problem, which has brought our African Continent to a serious point. He added that African efforts and wisdom are needed to remedy the situation.

Present at the occasion was Comrade Goshu Wolde, minister of foreign affairs and member of the COPWE Central Committee.

Bureau Session Opens

AB151720 Paris AFP in English 1618 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Addis Ababa, July 15 (AFP) — The nine-nation Bureau of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) called to discuss the situation in Chad opened at Africa Hall here today, with all Bureau members represented.

Ethiopian leader and current OAU Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam and Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure were, as expected, the only two heads of state in attendance. It was not immediately clear at what level Algeria, Zimbabwe and Swaziland were represented but Djibouti sent Prime Minister Barkat Gourad Hamadou, Nigeria Foreign Minister Ishaya Audu, Gabon Third Premier Emile Kassa Mapasi and Sao Tome and Principe Foreign Minister Maria de Amorim.

The meeting opened with a curt remark from the OAU chairman in which he thanked the delegations for the "prompt" response to his call for an urgent meeting of the Bureau after which it immediately went into closed session.

The OAU chairman called the meeting after expressing concern over the "worsening situation" in Chad and his repeated appeals to "all states" to desist from interfering in the affairs of Chad. The summons coincided with a southwards push by the forces of former President Goukouni Oueddei into Abeche from Faya-Largeau and before Hissein Habre's government forces had regained the upper hand in the conflict.

The OAU recognizes the Ndjamena government headed by Mr. Habre.

4-Member Committee Appointed

EA161619 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0400 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Excerpt] The OAU Bureau meeting on Chad continued in camera yesterday under the chairmanship of Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam and heard a report from the current OAU secretary general on the situation now prevailing in Chad. Members of the Bureau also expressed their views on the problem, put forward useful suggestions, and held extensive discussions.

Before the end of yesterday's session, a four-member committee was named and entrusted with the task of compiling and presenting to the meeting today the suggestions put forward by the members of the Bureau and by the current OAU secretary general in his report.

Members of the committee elected by the Bureau are Ethiopia, Nigeria, Algeria, and Guinea.

Bureau Issues Communique

EA162012 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] A 2-day meeting of the Bureau of the 19th OAU summit ended in Addis Ababa this afternoon with an appeal for an immediate cessation of hostilities and the return of peace to Chad.

In the communique, the nine-member Bureau expressed its conviction that the destiny of Chad must be determined by the people of that country alone. It thus appealed to all states, African and non-African, to refrain from any interference, direct or indirect, that may aggravate the situation in Chad. It also called on Chadian factions to accept and work for national reconciliation which, in its opinion, constitutes the only basis for a just and durable peace in Chad.

The Bureau further requested the current chairman of the OAU, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, to undertake any action, including the convening of a standing committee on Chad, aimed at bringing about lasting peace in that war-torn country.

In its assessment, the Bureau expressed great concern over the plight of the people of Chad, who have been victims of protracted struggles exacerbated by foreign interference and intervention for almost 2 decades and currently faced with similar difficulties of even more serious dimensions.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Greets Mitterrand on Bastille Day

LD160743 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Tripoli, 16 Jul (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution has sent a cable to the president of the Republic of France. Following is the text of the cable:

To the president of the Republic of France.

As one of the lovers of freedom for the masses, among the most hostile to the forces of injustice and exploitation, and one of those who are leading the popular revolution to destroy the remaining Bastille forts of the world, I have the pleasure to congratulate you on the 194th anniversary of the French revolution and the fall of the mighty Bastille Prison. On this memorable day I do hope that France recalls the revolution and the cause of freedom to realize that there are peoples in Palestine and Africa whose natural right is revolution for freedom.

May grace be upon he who follows the right path.

[Signed] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi

Al-Qadhdhafi Criticizes France in Interview

PA170405 Paris AFP in English 0346 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Paris, July 17 (AFP) — France has no right to intervene or to send arms to Chad, "nor even to speak of its problems," Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi said in an interview in the latest issue of *Le Point* magazine here.

Responding to a warning from President Francois Mitterrand about any Libyan involvement in the latest fighting, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi retorted that Mr Mitterrand had no right to speak that way because France "has the worst colonial past in Africa. It is the cause of all the problems on our continent."

He said the French Government's interpretation of its military cooperation agreements with Chad "is hoodwinking public opinion because any accord between France and an African country can only concern an external threat and not an internal conflict."

In that context, Col. al-Qadhdhafi argued, current Chadian leader Hissein Habre "is only a rebel, a defence minister fighting against his head of state." (Mr Habre was for a period defence minister in the transitional government of Goukouni Oueddei, the president he ousted last year and who is now attempting to regain power).

Col. al-Qadhdhafi denied supplying the Goukouni side with advanced Soviet weaponry for the latest fighting, though he conceded that arms had been provided when Mr Goukouni was in power in Ndjamena. When Libyan troops withdrew from Chad in November 1981, they had left some arms at the Chad Government's disposal, the colonel added.

Asked about affirmations by Goukouni partisans themselves that they are getting arms from Libya now, Col. al-Qadhdhafi replied: "They have to make those statements to uplift the morale of their troops."

More on Interview

LD172335 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2200 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] The widely circulated French magazine *Le Point* arranged a press interview with the brother leader of the revolution in which the brother leader talked about a number of African and Arab issues and about the current situation in Chad following the successive developments aimed at internationalizing the situation.

Concerning the events in Chad and the conspiracy to which the people of Chad are exposed by foreign forces the brother leader explained that what is happening inside Chad is a power struggle. He stressed that Libya is a state which is neutral in this struggle. We are extremely sorry about what is happening there.

Answering a question concerning the attitude of the Jamahiriyah in the event France sends French forces into Chad now or in the future, the brother leader stated: It would be premature to answer this question, but in any event Libya cannot ignore what is happening at its border. Also there is no excuse for any Euroepan power to send its forces to a state which lies in the heart of Africa. He said: This could happen only if we were still in the remote era of colonialism. He explained that if France did this, it would be a threat to Libya.

The brother leader explained that Libya is in contact with the OAU in this connection. This is because the Chadian problem is an African problem. He noted the attitude of the regime in Zaire and said that Zaire should be placed on trial for its action in sending troops unilaterally — a matter which is considered a threat to the jurisdiction of the OAU.

The brother leader spoke, in the press interview which the French magazine *Le Point* conducted with him, about a number of Arab issues including the issue of Arab unity, the Western Sahara, the new Fatah revolution, relations with the Soviet Union, and the Green Book. The brother leader affirmed that Arab unity is an inevitable necessity: We will actually deal with the Arab masses and with the revolutionary committees. This is a natural and obvious thing and it is not against any Arab state in particular.

About the new revolution in Fatah, the brother leader said: A revolution is occurring within the Fatah organization and not within the PLO. He noted that the Fatah leaders who appointed Yasir 'Arafat are the ones who withdrew their confidence in him.

Al-Qadhdhafi Cables Husayn on Iraqi Anniversary

LD160849 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Tripoli, 16 Jul (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution has sent a cable to the president of the Republic of Iraq. Here follows the text of the cable:

To the president of the Republic of Iraq.

14 July is an historic day in the life of the Arab nation. On that day [in 1958] the idols of Iraq — Faysal, 'Abd al-Ilah and Nuri [as-Sa'id] — were destroyed and beloved Iraq was restored to the fold of the Arab nation by the destruction of the Baghdad Pact, which had turned Iraq from the Arab homeland in a hostile attempt to use it against the Arab nation itself.

The history of the Arab nation retains forever this brilliant page on which the heroes of Iraq, free officers such 'Abd as-Salam Arif and Ash-Shawwaf and others, recorded the proclamation liberating our country, Iraq. Although political activity thereafter took a negative turn that destroyed the 14 July revolution, there is great hope that Baghdad, fortress of lions and focal point of glory, will restore to 14 July its unionist spirit and progressive identity.

Peace.

[Signed] Your brother, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Greetings From Hassan II

LD161629 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] The brother commander of the revolution has received a cable of King Hassan II of Morocco that reads:

As the Islamic nation celebrates the blessed 'Id al-Fitr, it pleases us to convey to you in the name of the Moroccan Government and people and in our name personally our warmest congratulations and best wishes for the continued progress and prosperity of your people. We pray to God that this 'Id and many like it will come as the Islamic nation enjoys glory, strength, and dignity.

We take advantage of this great occasion to praise the ties of amity and fraternity that bind our two peoples together and to take a pause to contemplate and brood over the present and future of our Islamic nation and the dangers and confrontations facing it. We pin our hopes on our deep faith and wise actions to heal the rift within the nation, unify its ranks, and direct its capabilities and the ingenuity of its peoples toward building, growth, peace, security, and prosperity; and thus be worthy of God's description of us as the best nation created unto mankind, for we advocate good deed, shun evil deeds, and believe in God.

Please accept my best greetings and esteem.

[Signed] Your brother, Hassan II

Government Supports OAU Bureau Statement on Chad

LD162050 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1940 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Tripoli, 16 Jul (JANA) — In a statement, an official source at the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has welcomed and supports the statement published today in Addis Ababa by the Bureau of the 19th OAU summit conference which stresses the OAU's concern for the Chad issue to be treated within the African framework due to the fact that the Chad problem is in reality an internal one characterized by a power conflict among various Chadian factions. It is also a problem that concerns the OAU, a matter which requires noninterference by all parties outside the continent, particularly the colonialist countries, in this problem.

The Jamahiriyah supports this statement, which stresses the collective African spirit in treating the Chad problem, and stresses its readiness to work with the organization on every matter likely to bring security and peace to Chad, free from any foreign interference.

Tripoli Comments on Communique

LD171735 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Various news agencies and information organizations have reported the text of the final communique of the 19th OAU Summit Bureau meeting held 15-16 July in Addis Ababa to investigate the situation in Chad. Some observers consider this statement to be the word and position of Africa toward the problem of Chad since it clearly expresses a public attitude which believes the establishment of peace among the people of Chad to be a vital necessity and which feels that the fate of that country must be decided only by the people of Chad.

The main points of the statement, which was issued last night, are centered around the privacy of the issue of Chad, and the measures which the OAU should adopt to resolve this issue. The statement defined the problem of Chad as an internal crisis that concerns the people of Chad. There is a specific definition of the sides in this conflict as factions of Chadian people fighting among themselves for one reason or another. There is no doubt that power is the main objective of each of these factions.

According to the principles of international law and international relations, the people of Chad should be able to direct their own affairs without any kind of external intervention. However, such intervention has occurred, explicitly and implicitly, by foreign colonialist countries and by other African agent countries. In some of its parts, therefore, this statement isa direct condemnation of Zaire, France, Sudan, Egypt, and the United States, all of which have intervened, in one way or another, in the affairs of the Chadian people and their right to practice self-determination in a way they consider convenient.

This condemnation was also issued by the African meeting against the mentioned parties in another form. In the second point, the statement calls on these parties to stop any direct or indirect intervention in Chad. In actual fact, this follows the call

to those currently involved in Chad to keep away from this African country. The continuing presence of the 2,000 Zairian soldiers in Chad after this statement is issued, will not be just a violation of the freedom of Chadian people and intervention in its internal affairs, but will also be a violation of the principles of the OAU, a violation of its resolutions, and an act of contempt against its work. Such actions must be deterred through African solidarity to preserve the dignity of the organization. This also applies to the French position. Facing African unanimity in handling the problem of Chad and solving it within the framework of the African family, Paris must stop its arms shipments, whose only purpose is to exacerbate the situation and fan the fire in Chad.

The OAU expressed extreme wisdom and insight in forwarding a firm and clear opinion concerning the situation in Chad [word indistinct]. In this way it has completely blocked the way for all those who use its name. The OAU has pointed to the people of Chad and to the international community the right way to establish permanent peace in Chad. It considers the acceptance of national reconciliation and work in accordance with it as the only basis for guaranteeing this peace. It is known that exactly 3 years ago this reconciliation succeeded in putting an end to the Chadian people's tragedy for a period of time.

It remains to say that this statement is, in actual fact, a test of intentions. These intentions will determine whether this statement will become a working schedule or whether it will burn between the soldiers of Mobutu and the arms of Mitterrand.

Further Reportage on Developments in Chad

Prisoner's Allegations Denied

LD180914 Tripoli JANA in English 0829 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Ndjamena, Shawwal 8, July 18, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The rebel clique here have yesterday exposed to journalists a person allegedly a Libyan soldier taken prisoner. This prisoner is supposedly to have told reporters about the rebel clique's alleged Libyan intervention in Chad.

This allegation is groundless and the repetition of such lies has become a tradition which inspires contempt for the cowards who are trying to cover up their deteriorating positions in Ndjamena.

The junta, which is deceived by illusions is looking for more excuses to cover up for the intervention of foreign troops and the internationalisation of the Chadian conflict. Libya, however, will always confirm its non-intervention in Chad and will vehemently support the O.A.U. call for a ceasefire and non-foreign intervention in the internal affairs of the Chadian people.

Habre Claims Rejected

LD162036 Tripoli JANA in English 1835 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Tripoli, Shawwal 7, July 16, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Renegade Hissein Habre has repeated his allegations of the existence of Libyan forces in Chad fighting alongside the Chadian National Liberation Army. Habre had earlier alleged the presence of Libyan forces in Chad, but his allegations were proved false. He then re-alleged the existence of Libyan prisoners taken by his forces during recent battles between them and the forces of the Chadian National Liberation Army. These allegations also proved false, as not one of his followers was able to present any proof affirming these allegations.

Hissein Habre's lies were uncovered on the African and international levels when the Organisation of African Unity officially informed him that it will send a fact-finding committee to Chad to confirm the absence of any Libyans there. But Habre refused to receive this committee and his lies were subsequently uncovered. He is now trying to issue new lies by alleging the presence of soldiers from Sudan, Cameroon and Central Africa who are fighting alongside the Chadian National Liberation Army.

This is yet another false allegation issued by renegade Habre in the wake of the continuous defeats of his forces by the Chadian National Liberation Army.

Opposition Communique Cited

LD172005 Tripoli JANA in English 1858 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Brussels, Shawwal 7, July 17, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The true Chadian Government of National Unity has affirmed that any true national reconciliation in Chad can only be realised through removing Hissein Habre from Chadian political life because he is responsible for the demonic civil war in Chad.

In a communique issued by its representative in Europe and published today in Brussels, the Chadian Government of National Unity said it does not want to continue the suffering of the Chadian people and wants to reach national reconciliation without Hissein Habre.

The communique said the OAU clearly recognised during its meeting in Addis Ababa that the Chadian struggle is domestic and that attempts to internationalise it have come as a result of Hissein Habre's desire to do so by allowing the intervention of Zaire, France and the United States to assist him.

The communique said the National Unity Government cannot halt its military attack as long as foreign forces reman stationed in Chad and as long as the US and France continue to militarily support any faction against the Government of National Unity.

The communique said the Government of National Unity both agrees and supports the OAU's recommendations as a basis for negotiation.

Lebanon's Junblatt Arrives in Tripoli 16 July

LD162350 Tripoli JANA in English 1840 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Tripoli, Shawwal 6, July 16, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party Mr Walid Junblatt arrived in Tripoli this afternoon on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Upon his arrival, Mr Junblatt told our correspondent that his visit comes for consultations over current developments in Lebanon, especially after the signing of the shameful agreement between the Lebanese Government and Zionist enemy that transformed Lebanon into a colony.

Mr Junblatt said the Lebanese situation is now dangerous and difficult, especially after the Zgharta meeting, and calls for the escalation of struggle against the Zionist enemy.

Pointing to the new revolutionary movement inside Fatah organisation, Mr Junblatt said "we support the demands for correcting the internal situation inside this organisation."

Received by Jallud

LD170917 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Tripoli, 17 Jul (JANA) — Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud last night received brother Walid Junblatt, chairman of the Progressive Socialist Party of Lebanon, who is on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Libyan-Tunisian Committee Prepares for Meeting

LD180930 Tripoli JANA in English 0821 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Tripoli, Shawwal 8, July 18, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The preparatory committee for the joint meeting of the Jamahiriyah's General People's Committee and the Tunisian Council of Ministers due to commence in Tripoli on July 19, started this evening in Tripoli.

Today's meeting was attended by the General People's Committee secretaries of the economy and light industry and of planning together with experts from . e education, heavy industries and justice secretariats and the Foreign Liaison Bureau, agrarian reform and land reclamation and oil secretariats together with the general establishment for supply goods and the Jamahiriyah's general commissioner in Tunis.

The Tunisian side at the meeting was represented by the Economy Minister Abdelaziz Lasram, Planning Minister Ismail Khalil and the Undersecretary of State at the Ministry of External Affairs in charge of International Cooperation Ahmed Ben Arfa together with officials from several Tunisian ministries and the general Tunisian commissioner in the Jamahiriyah.

In a speech at the meeting, the General People's Committee Secretary of the Economy and Light Industries Mr Musa Abu Furaywah welcomed members of the Tunisian delegation and affirmed that these meetings and contacts are all aimed at bolstering brotherly links and advanced relations between the two fraternal people.

He said "we affirm the necessity of achieving economic integration between both countries in realisation of total unity through integration in all fields. This was agreed upon between the revolution's leader and Tunisia's President Habib Bourguiba in their meeting in Tunis on February 1982."

Mr Abu Furaywah reviewed the results of the meetings of the education, information, economy, agriculture, public service, and transport and communications subcommittees. He said the results achieved by them affirm the common desire by both countries to support economic integration.

In another speech, the Tunisian Economy Minister Mr Abdelaziz Lasram affirmed the desire of sisterly Tunisia to support steps [word indistinct] to economic integration in ways that would realise both countries' ambition for progress and prosperity. He pointed to the importance and necessity of increasing contacts and bilateral meetings together with the necessity of establishing joint companies in all fields. He affirmed that the Tunisian Government and President Habib Bourguiba are working for the quick realisation of economic integration between the Jamahiriyah and Tunisia.

MOROCCO

AOSARIO Sends Open Letter to Moroccan Parties

LD171612 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Rabat, 17 Jul (MAP) — The Association of the Natives of Sahara Formerly Under Spanish Domination, AOSARIO, has sent an open letter to Moroccan political parties and trade union leaders.

The association stressed the ill will of some concerned parties that have tried to stop the application of legal rule on the international or regional level either to specify the status of Moroccans detained abroad or to assess the representation of the so-called Polisario in the detention camps. Some 85 percent of the population registered in the census lists drawn up by colonial authorities as residing in the territories of the former Spanish Sahara are now living in their country Morocco, where these people have shouldered their civilian, national, and political responsibilities since 1976, the date colonialists were evicted and this area returned to Morocco. The legal precedents in this respect, contained in UN files — especially the two cases of West Irian and Bahrain, where similar conflicts were settled according to UN recommendations on the basis of consulting the population through small local institutions — show the removal of the principle of one man one vote.

Concerning West Irian, the United Nations agreed to this in spite of the opposition of 300,000 of the total population of 800,000.

As for Bahrain, an opinion poll was carried out, attended by the UN secretary general's representative, in the organizations and councils representing the population that agreed to this consultation.

Recent developments in the area became an additional factor in the final removal of any existing doubts concerning the excuses of some to justify a covert war against Morocco to international public opinion. This war is aimed at unsettling the stability of our country, Morocco, weakening its economy, and obstructing the progress of our democratic regime.

The AOSARIO movement, in the name of the original inhabitants of the Sahara, calls on all active powers in the country to reply immediately within a framework to be decided by the supreme authority of the country.

SUDAN

President Numayri Makes Statement on Chad

JN161125 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1040 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Jul (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has made a statement to SUNA on the developments of the situation in Chad, the threat faced by the legitimate government in Chad, and the steps which must be taken by the African states and countries of the world to stop Libyan interference in the affairs of Chad and, consequently, in the affairs of other African states. The president also stressed the importance of backing the legitimate government in Chad in order to defend the independence of Chad and prevent the widespread use of anarchy, sabotage, and terrorism.

Concerning the situation in Chad, the president said: The issue is clear and needs no further explanation. The territory of a member-state of the OAU is being violated. Mercenary armies from Libyan territory are marching toward Chad to kill, plunder, and destroy with their armor and guns; they come under Libyan air cover, and with the participation of mercenaries who have been trained in Libya, which pays their salaries and supplies them with weapons, ammunition, and provisions.

The president said: All African states recognize the legitimate government in Chad. They announced and affirmed this recognition at the recent African summit conference in Addis Ababa. They must now translate this recognition into action under the UN and OAU Charters.

The president said: OAU member-states must rise and assist the legitimate government in Chad. They must help it with funds, weapons, and ammunition, not just stand by with their hands tied. They must collectively rise to stop this aggression which, if it succeeds, will not stop at the Chadian border. It will be a serious precedence whose fire will burn all African states, whether far or near [passage indistinct] have announced to the world their commitment to the pacts and agreement concluded with Chad. France has affirmed through its president that it will provide the legitimate government in Chad with weapons, ammunition, and the means of transport in fulfillment of its agreement with that government. France has indeed begun fulfilling its commitment.

The United States has announced that it will assist the legitimate government in Chad, which is a target of aggression by Libyan-backed rebels. It also said that it will look with symapthy at any request for aid by the Habre government. Here the president asks: Where are the African states on this issue?

The president added that the Zairian Government translated the OAU Charter into action by sending troops, equipment, and planes to the government of President Habre, thus providing a marvelous example of African solidarity.

The president said that Sudan appeals to all African countries to fulfill their commitment to the organization's charter, support the legitimate government in Chad, and to back it against the aggression which is being sponsored by Libya. The president noted that Libya wants to take revenge on the African countries that taught Colonel al-Qadhdhafi an unforgettable lesson when they united against all his attempts to prevent the convocation of their summit meeting in Addis Ababa, which he failed to achieve in Tripoli on two occasions.

[Words indistinct] to help a UN and an OAU member facing aggression assisted by a country that has deviated from the African consensus and is trying to impose its domination on an African country by force, thus completely discardingall international charters. He said that all governments must not be satisfied by just denouncing this aggression. They must also help the legitimate government to repulse this aggression, thus affirming to peacelovers throughout the world that the aggressor will be repulsed and the tyrant will be defeated regardless of the sacrifices, and that the only way to do this is to firmly confront it and defeat it.

Concluding his statement to SUNA the president said that he was confident that the stand by the African and world countries in the face and defeat of the invasion of Chad will bring benefit and peace to Africa and the world and will be a victory for right and legitimacy everywhere.

Foreign Minister Chad Statement

JN151610 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] [No dateline received] (SUNA) — In a statement to SUNA today, Sudanese Minister of Foreign Affairs Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak announced that the OAU should assume its responsibility toward a member-state by declaring its adherence to the objectives and principles of its charter,its support for the legitimate government in Chad, and its condemnation of Libyan interference. It should also take every necessary measure to stop that interference and eliminate its consequences, considering it as null and void. He added that such a stand would preserve respect for the OAU and strength and efficiency for its charter and resolutions.

Mirghani also said that by its commitment to the principles of the UN and OAU Charters, Sudan was the first to condemn Libyan interference in Chad and to draw attention to the dangers of such interference. He called on all African states to condemn and confront the Libyan aggression against Chad and to extend all possible aid to the legitimate government in Ndjamena on the basis of a sincere commitment to the OAU Charter. He said that the Libyan behavior is viewed as a serious destruction of regional cooperation which Africa had accepted as an effective means for realizing its aspirations for unity and solidarity.

Mirghani also said that Libya's actions in Chad are an obvious interference in the internal affairs of a neighboring African state and serious proof that Libya is prepared to threaten any other African state's stability in pursuit of the narrow Libyan interests. The minister added that Africa and the entire world should

strongly and decisively confront the Libyan behavior to combat the law of jungle and to preserve sanctity for the regional and international charters and norms.

Mirghani also said that the Libyan regime was not satisifed with the recent Chadian stability or with its government's efforts to unify its citizens' efforts to gain African and international assistance for the reconstruction of Chad. He added that the Libyan regime openly defied the African will, regional and international charters and norms and carried out its military interference in Chad, thus violating the territory of an independent state and full member of the OAU and United Nations.

The minister also announced that Sudan appeals to the world to confront Libya's practices in Chad, practices which constitute a threat to peace in an important region of the world. He added that Sudan calls on the world's states to take every measure and position to preserve Chad's territorial integrity and to eliminateLibyan aggression against it. He also praised Zaire's position and support for legitimacy in Chad and France's commitment to the charters and agreements concluded with Chad and Chad's appeals to France to exert every effort to preserve the safety and unity of Chadian territories.

Mirghani also praised U.S. preparedness to support legitimacy in Chad. The U.S. secretary of defense has clearly expressed that position which is viewed as a just and courageous move. The minister also called for continued support for the legitimate government in Chad to enable it to undermine Libyan aggression and remove all its consequences.

SUNA Cites Opposition on Libyan Chad Involvement

JN161735 Khartoum SUNA in English 1705 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Khartoum, July 16 (SUNA) — The National Front for Salvation of Libya today confirmed the direct intervention by Libyan leader Col. Al-Qadhdhafi in the Chadian events.

A communique isued by the front here said that the Libyan leader tries to deny his involvement in Chad and to bluff the world opinion that these battles are raging between two Chadian parties.

The front citing elements within Libya itself said that Al-Qadhdhafi embroiled people from some African countries in the Chadian conflict after recruitment and training in the framework of what he called the Islamic (?decision).

The communique said that Col. Al-Qadhdhafi recruited massive black Libyan people and introduced them in the Cnadian conflict mainly to camouflage that they are Libyan elements.

The black Libyan elements had been incorporated in what is called the Green Brigade (which included about 6,000 soldiers) the communique added.

The front made it clear that the cadres in the Libyan Armed Forces and the foreign military advisers had planned and made the preparation for the military operations and the logistic work for the participation of the Green Brigade.

The front said that Col. Al-Qadhdhafi pledged to give an air cover to the rebels operations if it's necessary. So Al-Qadhdhafi stationed squadrons of combat and bombers plane in the air base neighbouring the Sudanese border, the communique added.

The communique confirmed that the battles that Chad witnesses are in the platform of Al-Qadhdhafi's plot and his expansionist aggression aimed at extending his influence in the adjacent African states.

The situation in Chad now needs the rallying of the whole Africa and world efforts to counter the aggression launched by Col. Al-Qadhdhafi, the front added.

Vice President Departs for United States

JN161515 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Khartoum, 16 (SUNA) — First Vice President Major General 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib left for the United States this morning on a working visit that will last about 2 weeks.

During the visit, the first vice president will hold talks with U.S. officials on issues of common concern for Sudan and the United States.

To Open Security Office

GF161120 Kuwait Al-Hadaf in Arabic 15 Jul 83 p 1

["Exclusive" report from London]

[Excerpt] It has been disclosed here that an officer from the Sudanese security organ has been in this capital for 2 days en route to Washington, D.C., the capital of the United States.

Al-Hadaf sources said the officer, who is Lieutenant Colonel Safwat Hasan Siddiq, has been commissioned by the Sudanese Government to open a security organ office at the Sudanese Embassy in Washington. They said Siddiq has been chosen for this mission by Sudanese First Vice President Major General 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib, who is also the chief of the state security organ in Sudan. The sources said the Sudanese lieutenant colonel is probably awaiting the arrival of the Sudanese vice president who will accompany him to Washington, where he will open the Sudanese security organ's office during Maj Gen at-Tayyib's visit there.

ETHIOPIA

Foreign Ministry Denies Attack on Somalia

EA171911 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced today that the false news being spread by the Siad Barre regime to the effect that Ethiopia is attacking her is baseless and nothing but a lie. In a statement refuting Somalia's unfounded accusations, the ministry disclosed that these deeds will not surprise those who are aware of Mogadishu's record of lies and repeated denials of its own activities.

The Foreign Ministry confirmed that, unlike the Mogadishu regime, Ethiopia had no military conflicts with Somalia. It noted that the Siad Barre regime, which is in the habit of shedding crocodile tears, has made repeated accusations against Ethiopia, and added that the aim of this is to confuse the world community as to the true picture of the expansionist policy of the Mogadishu regime. The Foreign Ministry recalled that Somalia is spreading false information at a time when a great event, the OAU [Bureau] summit, is taking place, and added that this policy seeks both to spoil Ethiopia's reputation and to divert the attention of the world community from the problems and sufferings in Somalia.

The ministry pointed out that the armed struggle going on under the Siad Barre regime is an undeniable fact. The broad masses of Ethiopia have no conflict with the broad masses of Somalia and sympathize with their problems and sufferings. The ministry confirmed that Ethiopia has not been involved in its current internal problems.

Even though Siad Barre's regime is trying to prolong its life by telling the Somali people a pack of lies to make them forget their problems and sufferings, it will never be able to cheat them or lead them in the wrong direction, added the ministry.

SFRY Delegation Arrives for 1-Week Visit

EA171627 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1000 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Excerpts] A delegation composed of five high-level officials from the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia arrived in Addis Ababa this morning for talks on further strengthening and widening economic cooperation between Socialist Ethiopia and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The delegation, which is on a 1-week working visit, is led by Comrade Zvone Dragan, vice president of the Federal Executive Council of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Comrade Dragan was welcomed on arrival at Bole International Airport by Comrade Addis Tedla, member of the PMAC [Provisional Military Administrative Council] Standing Committee, deputy chairman of the National Revolutionary Campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council, and member of the COPWE Executive Committee.

A ten-member delegation whose task was to facilitate the working visit of Comrade Dragan arrived earlier in Addis Ababa.

Separatists To Unite Against 'Colonial Forces'

LD171603 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somalia and Abo Liberation Front in Somali to Western Somalia 1200 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] A symposium was held recently at the headquarters [place not specified] of the Western Somalia Liberation Front [WSLF] with the participation of young people, women, religious leaders, workers, and other representatives of the general public of the territory of Western Somalia. The symposium discussed in detail how to implement the resolutions of the recent congress of the WSLF and how to speed up cooperation with other liberation movements struggling for their independence and freedom from black colonialist Abyssinia.

Addressing the symposium, the secretary general of the WSLF, fighter Shaykh 'Abd an-Nasir, said that the WSLF, the Somali Abo, Eritrean, and Tigrean liberation fighters plan to get together in order to unite their policies and programs against the black colonialist forces of Abyssinia, which continue to massacre, oppress, and pillage the defenseless people they colonize.

Fighter 'Abd an-Nasir called on the leadership of various sections of the WSLF to educate the general public politically as a means to ensure that any soldiers from the colonized areas of Abyssinia that might fall into their hands are well treated, since these are the same soldiers who must use their weapons and skills to free their fellow countrymen of Eritrea, Tigre, and other regions from the colonial yoke of Abyssinia.

SOMALIA

Defense Ministry Reports Attacks by Ethiopia

EA161622 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] The Ministry of Defense today reported that at 0600 this morning the black Abyssinian colonialist enemy attacked Dabat, Balambal, and the area between Mataban and (Qabno) Hill in the regions of Hiran and Ghel Gudut [central zone]. The report from the Defense Ministry says that the air and ground attack, which is still going on, has been confronted bravely by the SDR Armed Forces based in the area.

We shall inform you of developments in the ongoing attack in later transmissions.

Second Attack 'Driven Back'

EA161632 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Reports received this afternoon from the SDR Defense Ministry state that the enemy forces have launched another

attack on Somali units defending the country in the (Dogob Yare) and (Ber Dagahtur) areas.

In their invasion of those areas on the (Dambo) plains, the enemy forces penetrated 4 to 5 kilometres into Somali territory before being driven back to the points from which they launched their attack.

The reports add that all the enemy forces have been driven out of the areas they penetrated with heavy casualties.

Further Report

NC171432 Paris AFP in English 1405 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Mogadishu, July 17 (AFP) — Somali troops have driven all invading Ethiopian forces out of Somalia and the situation in the country is now back to normal, the Defence Ministry announced here today.

The latest statement followed last night's Somali charges that Ethiopian troops penetrated up to five kilometres (three miles) inside Somalia in two attacks across the border of central Somalia.

Today's statement, published by the Somali news agency SONNA, said that the "aggressing" forces had suffered heavy casualties, both in men and materials. This was the first time fighting had been reported along the border since Ethiopia assumed chairmanship of the Organisation of African Unity at the beginning of June.

For more than a year there have been skirmishes along the Ethiopian-Somali border. Mogadishu says the Ethiopian Army is responsible while the Addis Ababa government maintains that the sorties are the work of Somali dissidents operating from its territory.

The two countries were at open war in 1977-78 for control of Ethiopia's Ogaden Province, where ethnic Somalis live. Somalia lost, and in 1981 the Organisation of African Unity's confirmation of Ethiopian sovereignty was endorsed by every member state except Somalia.

Situation 'Normal' After Attacks

EA171323 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Reports from the SDR Defense Ministry today disclosed that the provocative attack launched by the Abyssinian enemy against the SDR yesterday has been bravely countered and crushed by the Somali Defense Forces. The reports add that the Abyssinians were driven back from all the areas they entered yesterday, and that suffered heavy casualties both in terms of men and materiel.

The Defense Ministry also said that the situation was back to normal today.

Opposition Group Claims Successes Against Regime

EA172020 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] The fighters of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, DFSS, wing of the Somali opposition forces launched a surprise attack against bases of the Barre loyalist forces in Mataban, Hiran region. During this action, the DFSS fighters completely wiped out both the forces which were stationed there and their military equipment.

The report from the DFSS wing of the Somali opposition forces states that at 1000 on 16 July, the fighters of the DFSS launched a surprise attack in the Mataban area, killing over 300 soldiers and wounding many others. The DFSS fighters captured four armored personnel carriers, four 85-mm field guns, and one Land-Rover, while destroying six tanks, three 105-mm field guns, three antiaircraft guns, and the radio communication sets belonging to the Barre loyalist forces stationed in and around the village of Mataban.

The DFSS wing of the Somali opposition forces notes that their fighters suffered 2 martyrs killed and 10 others wounded. The DFSS fighters also lost one armored personnel carrier and two other vehicles.

The report by the DFSS wing of the Somali opposition forces adds that the surprise attack by the DFSS fighters on the Barre loyalist forces in and around Mataban village began at 1000 on 16 July 1983 and continued until 1600. The DFSS wing of the Somali opposition forces withdrew to their original bases after their successful mission against the loyalist troops of Siad Barre, who do not know why they are fighting.

At the same time, a senior official of the DFSS wing of the Somali opposition forces issued a statement on the successful operation carried out by our fighters. The statement noted that claims made by the Barre regime to the effect that foreign troops have launched an air and ground invasion of certain parts of Somali territory are baseless and without foundation. The senior officer of the DFSS wing of the Somali opposition forces has described the statement released by Barre's Defense Ministry as a set of concocted lies. He added that no foreign troops have invaded Somalia.

Speaking in the name of the DFSS wing of the Somali opposition forces, the official said the surprise attack on Barre loyalist bases in and around the village of Mataban was part of an effort to crush the oppressive regime of Siad Barre. The senior official added that the DFSS fighters destroyed the base and killed or wounded all the soldiers and technical personnel who have been involved in construction work in the area during the past 2 months.

The Barre regime has been amassing arms, heavy equipment, and troops in the central and northern areas of Somalia throughout the same period.

The successful mission, bravely accomplished by the DFSS wing of the Somali opposition forces, is just the beginning of a new offensive by the fighters of the Somali opposition forces against the loyalist troops of the Barre regime.

Further details on the successful mission by the DFSS wing of the Somali opposition forces will be released in subsequent broadcasts.

TANZANIA

Diplomatic Relations Sought With Kenya

EA161644 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 0408 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Dar es Salaam — The prime minister, Ndugu Sokoine, stressed Tanzania's intention to establish diplomatic relations with Kenya as a first step toward resuming the sort of relations which existed between the two countries in the past.

Speaking to the British minister of state in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Ndugu Sokoine said the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries — former members of the defunct East African Community — would also enable them to initiate moves that could lead to accord in the field of trade.

The prime minister recommended opening liaison offices initially, if high commissions could not be set up right away. Ndugu Sokoine noted, however, that agreement in the trade sector between the two countries did not mean the reopening of their border, which was closed following the collapse of the East African Community in 1977.

The British minister, who arrived in the country on Thursday, is expected to leave for Nairobi today, where he will hold talks with President arap Moi of Kenya.

UGANDA

Delegation Leaves for 3-Week Visit to USSR

EA171637 Kampala Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Excerpt] The minister of power, posts, and telecommunications, Mr Akena P'Ojok, has left for the Soviet Union leading a three-man delegation. The members of the delegation include the minister of state in the prime minister's office, Mr Edward Burungaranga, and the secretary for political and educational affairs in the UPC [Uganda People's Congress] Secretariat, Mr Ben Wachak. They will be in the USSR for about three weeks.

Visiting DPRK Delegation Leaves for Tanzania

EA171647 Kampala Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] The vice foreign minister of the DPRK, Mr Kim Chae-suk, who has been in Uganda for a 4-day official visit, has left for Tanzania. At Entebbe Airport before he left, Mr Kim Chae-suk informed the press that his delegation was impressed with the stability prevailing in Uganda. He said they observed that the people of Uganda are hardworking, and with the correct leadership of President Milton Obote, Uganda has a bright future.

The vice foreign minister and his delegation were seen off at Entebbe Airport by the minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Albert Picho Owiny, the ambassador, Mr Chang Tae-hui, and senior government and party officials.

CHAD

Further Coverage of Continued Fighting

FANT Controls Eastern Sectors

LD151704 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Excerpt] There is great relief in Ndjamena following the failure of the GUNT offensive in the Chadian [word indistinct]. According to the government, the entire eastern region is now under the control of the legal forces, which are currently carrying out mopping-up operations in the desert. President Hissein Habre is reported to be somewhere in the east, with his military units. Our special reporter, Edouard (Dor), is on the scene in Ndjamena.

[Begin recording] Well-informed sources in Ndjamena claim that the GUNT has no organized military presence in the eastern part of the country. Government forces have regained control of the towns in the area, particularly Oum Chalouba [words indistinct] important routes 260 km to the north of Abeche. Fifty to eighty enemy vehicles are reported to have been destroyed.

As for Goukouni Oueddei's fighters, who occupied Abeche for 2 days before fleeing, they are dispersed in the desert in small groups. The eastern column of Goukouni's forces has therefore been almost totally destroyed and had part of its equipment seized during this government counteroffensive personally led by President Hissein Habre. The national army is now left with the task of setting up an important logistical base in Abeche in order to launch a possible attack on Faya-Largeau, taking advantage of the enemy's present state of disorganization. Furthermore, air shuttle operations have begun between Ndjamena and Abeche to transport fuel, provisions, and military equipment. [end recording]

There is no information on the situation from the GUNT side.

Official Cites Casualty Lists

JN171231 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1015 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 17 Jul (SUNA) — The Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT] are resuming reconnaissance operations in eastern Chad, reorganizing their ranks, and reinforcing their positions in the area.

In a statement to journalists here yesterday, Soumaila Mahamat, spokesman for the Chadian Government and commissioner of the president's office for information, said that the provisional lists of the losses which the government forces have inflicted on the enemy in Oum Chalouba and Kalait indicate that 78 mutineers were captured, while 2 Toyota and 2 Mercedes vehicles were destroyed. The Mercedes vehicles were loaded with anti-tank rockets, RPG's, and 70 personal weapons. Also 500 prisoners (as received), belonging to government forces have been released. These prisoners were captured at Faya-Largeau and (Ouanianga). In Abeche, 260 mutineers, 1 missile-carrying jeep, 30 military vehicles, and various ammunition trucks were also captured.

Mahamat pointed out that this is what the provisional lists explain, and that the final lists will explain the exact losses after reconnaissance operations are completed. These lists, he added, will include the losses which the enemy sustained in other areas. He also noted that the supporters of Goukouni Oueddei and (Kamaji) will use their meeting in Tripoli to study their defeats and failures and to formulate a strategy for a new aggression against Chad. He said Libya will continue with its acts of aggression using the maximum number of mercenaries. He added that he is also aware of Libya's goal in Chad — the occupation of the country up to Ndjamena.

Mahamat described the stand adopted by President Mobutu of Zaire as brave and claimed that all other countries understand the Libyan danger and its intention to occupy the whole of Africa. He added that these countries have assumed their responsibilities according to their means — President Mobutu extends support within the limits of his capabilities and the presidents of other states extend their political and diplomatic support to Chad. He further commented that their efforts are appreciated.

On U.S. aid, he pointed out that the United States has taken the right stand. It realizes that Libya wants to annex Chad and to dispatch forces, and that events have proven this. He said that the United States has resumed its moral, political, and diplomatic support for Chad against Libya's acts of aggression, but, as far as military assistance is concerned, the United States has not yet intervened, and, in the event that it does, will do so publicly.

'Mopping-Up' Operations Under Way

AB151305 Paris AFP in French 1132 GMT 15 Jul 83

[By Special AFP Correspondent Christian Illet]

[Text] Ndjamena, 15 July (AFP) — The commander in chief of the Chadian National Armed Forces (FANT), Idriss Ebby, has told AFP that The FANT is continuing its "mopping-up operations" [words indistinct] in order to "eliminate" the remnants of the "rebel troops."

A large part of the FANT, which recaptured Abeche, 700 kms east of the capital, has proceeded toward Oum Chalouba, 325 kms southeast of Faya-Largeau, the large northern palm grove presently occupied by the forces of former President Goukouni Oueddei.

FANT headquarters noted that ten of the 12 AML's (light armored cars) supplied by France arrived in Oum Chalouba late on Thursday evening with a large escort. Other motorized elements including all-purpose vehicles equipped with recoilless guns are mopping up a vast desert zone stretching from Salal in the west of the country to Arada in the east.

The FANT has therefore progressed from a static defensive position and the defeats and hurried retreats that have accompanied it since 24 June to a war of movement which better corresponds to its feeble means, at least when compared to an opponent generously endowed with heavy artillery. Besides, this tactic is dear to the hardcore element of the FANT — President

Hissein Habre's FAN — which practiced it throughout its 11 years of rebellion and especially during its "long march" on Ndjamena last year.

Military observers in the Chadian capital believe, however, that the materiel delivered by "the friendly countries" — particularly France — has not yet enabled a balance to be reestablished in the face of the collection of weapons which Libya itself admits having supplied to the rebels. Moreover, the FANT must solve serious problems of logistics and maintenance in view of the fact that the battlefield now covers two-thirds of the country, which is 2 and 1/2 times as large as France (1,284 million kms).

Three weeks ago, it possessed only one DC-4 plane for air transportation. It has now repaired another DC-4 and two DC-3 planes and also has a C-130 helicopter lent by Zaire at its disposal. A second Zairian C-130 helicopter never arrived because it is President Mobutu's personal plane and is equipped like a veritable flying apartment.

Military observers believe that this fleet is "insufficient," particularly because the FANT has a limited number of trucks at its disposal.

Concerning maintenance, the few civilian instructors sent by France have not been authorized to go to the field with spare parts in order to repair broken down equipment. In the past 2 weeks, the instructors have been able to give brief training to the crew of the AML's but not to the mechanics. The gear-box of the AML is reputed to be fragile compared with that of other French equipment, and the Chadian drivers are considered to be "somewhat brutal, especially as the roads are in a deplorable condition." One of the instructors did explain, however, that "they have filled up the holes with what they have."

Situation of GUNT Described

LD152041 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Excerpts] [Unidentified announcer] Our second special reporter in Chad, Daniel (Desesquel), who went to the north along with the forces of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT], has returned to Paris. Owing to obvious communications difficulties between the combat zone and Paris, he brought back with him in his luggage, if I may say so, many reports on what he saw and experienced.

First of all, Daniel (Desesquel), begin with what happened at Faya-Largeau, where you were just a few days ago.

[(Desesquel)] Well, Monday 11 July was a terrible day at Faya-Largeau. General Njogo was unable to land at Abeche; he noted with bitterness that his troops did not hold the town and that the counteroffensive launched against Oum Chalouba by Hissein Habre's troops had been successful. At that exact moment, General Njogo, chief of staff of the GUNT forces, lost all contact, including radio contact, with his eastern flank, by far the most important one.

The president of the GUNT, Goukouni Oueddei, was not at Faya. He had gone to Sabhah, in Libya, for the feast marking the end of Ramadan. There was tension in the air in Faya on Monday evening, as well as a definite desire for a counterattack. Nevertheless, still on Monday evening, as reinforcements set off towards Oum Chalouba, the curfew was tightened. On Tuesday, 12 July, Goukouni Oueddei returned, the confusion increased, and political cadres were armed. On Wednesday, 13 July, a popular unit took up positions; its task: to defend the town. Despite this, General Njogo, aware of the situation, remained calm and declared that the Chadian National Armed Forces [FAN] would not achieve its objectives.

[Announcer] Much has been said about the importance of Libyan materiel aid to the GUNT. You were there, what did you see?

[(Desesquel)] Obviously, logistics play an essential role in this umpteenth Chadian war. An army which moves through the desert without ensuring adequate supplies of food, fuel, and amunition is a vulnerable army. When the FAN forces held Faya-Largeau, a long way from Ndjamena, they were highly vulnerable; and vice versa, when the GUNT forces arrived at Abeche, 600km from Faya, they in turn showed clear signs of weakness. This weakness could, in theory, have been overcome with appropriate Libyan logistical support. Libya certainly supplied Goukouni's troops with quite a few (?machineguns) and trucks, of which there seemed to be many, while the bulk of the forces were still stationed at Faya-Largeau. But once these troops left for the East and South, the [word indistinct] of trucks [word indistinct]. Moreover, what could these trucks carry? Normally, a (?Fokker) lands every day in Faya. On Tuesday, 12 July, when news about the tragedy of the day before had already broken, the airport did not [words indistinct] appropriate to the situation. An aircraft did, indeed, drop some crates on Abeche; two or three Fokkers dropped a [word indistinct] of ammunition, but was that enough? Evidence suggests that it was not.

So why is Libya providing so little support at the moment, at this tragic moment? Is it negligence, or political maneuvering? I cannot answer this question on the basis of what I saw at Faya-Largeau.

[Announcer] And the GUNT forces you are talking about — those of the ex-president, Goukouni Oueddei — who are they, what are they doing for the GUNT cause?

[(Desesquel)] Well, the GUNT's situation is one of virtually total dependence on Libya. Even if Goukouni Oueddei's men refer to their "numerous allies" at every opportunity, it must be said that Libya alone is supporting the materiel weight of the war. Here is an example: In the confusion which prevailed during the taking of the town of Abeche, General Njogo, chief of staff of the GUNT, having lost all radio contact with the eastern flank, wanted to go to Abeche by aircraft as early as Sunday, 10 July. He waited all day long for an aircraft from Sabhah which never showed up. It was only on Monday, 11 July, that General Njogo was able to make the trip to Abeche. In the morning at 0630 local time and then at 0730 he received two communiques from the previous evening. He was confident that he would accompany journalists in the first aircraft to land at Abeche [words indistinct]

A Libyan civilian (? transport) of the United African Airways took off at almost 1300 hours. In the aircraft, the general dictated a message of congratulations to his troops, and an accompanying officer even typed out the message on the floor of the aircraft. Having done this, General Njogo surveyed the horizon with his binoculars, and when the time came to land he had the surprise of finding Abeche deserted. Use of the airport's runway was made impossible by barrels [fat] placed on the concrete. There was drama; the general noted the absence of his troops and ordered a fast about-face. Replying to a question which I asked him at that precise moment regarding the possible presence of Hissein Habre's troops, General Njogo reasoned that if the FAN were present at [word indistinct], 300 or 400 meters away, they were not there to take part in talks. That day was therefore very cruel for General Njogo and we returned to Faya-Largeau.

[Announcer] Thank you, Daniel (Desesquel), for your report.

Reportage on Foreign Involvement in Conflict

Habre on Captured 'Foreigners'

AB160805 Paris AFP in English 0734 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Ndjamena, July 16 (AFP) — The rebel forces of ex-President Goukouni Oueddei have an "incredible" amount of modern weapons, Chad Government leader Hissein Habre said in an interview with the state news agency ATP published here friday.

Mr. Habre was speaking at Biltine, 90 kms (about 50 miles) from the main eastern town Abeche. His army recaptured both localities in fierce fighting this week. Mr. Habre said the Goukouni units had ground-ground missiles, 106 mm artillery, and four-barrel rocket launchers.

Warning that the war was not yet over, Mr. Habre contrasted the (?enemy's) firepower with the "more or less very bad state of most of our vehicles. The food supply situation is also truly tough," he told ATP. Mr. Habre also reported the presence of large numbers of foreigners among the Goukouni forces. Among the some 1,000 prisoners taken at Biltine were men apparently belonging to the Cameroon opposition fronts, he said. A body of Sudanese exiles brought in from Libya was advancing south, according to latest reports, Mr. Habre told the agency.

Further Report

JN161138 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1055 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 16 Jul (SUNA) — Chadian President Hissein Habre has revealed financial evidence that confirms Libyan interference in Chad. He said that every time a member of the enemy is captured, he is found carrying Libyan money, Libyan identity cards, or excerpts from the Green Book.

In an interview yesterday with the CHADIAN NEWS AGENCY and Radio Chad in Paltan, in the eastern part of the country, Habre added that this shows the extent of Libya's temptation and exploitation of Chadians and other African nationals who were recruited in the so-called Islamic Legion.

Habre said during the interview that the latest reports indicated that a rebel battalion had arrived in Faya-Largeau and is trying to head south. He declared that the war is not yet over and that he is aware of the Libyan schemes, is prepared for them, and will crush the last element stationed in the Largeau region.

Chadian President Habre said that the national army demonstrated exceptional courage despite the modern and sophisticated weapons of the rebels. He added that his forces were able to show their superiority by virtue of the human factor [words indistinct] regardless of the motives, must eliminate from their minds the mistaken idea of the existence of warring factions in Chad because such a belief would be a step backward. [Words indistinct]

Authorities Display 'Libyan Corporal'

AB170942 Paris AFP in English 0938 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Ndjamena, July 17 (AFP) — Chadian authorities today produced a man they said was a Libyan corporal captured a week ago during fighting between forces of President Hissein Habre and those of his Libyan-backed predecessor Goukouni Oueddei.

He was named as Mas'ud Baghdadi Muhammad, a signals corporal, and an Arab journalist who acted as interpreter said he spoke Libyan Arabic and not the Chadian version of the language.

The man was said to have been captured on July 10 at Kalait in northeast Chad (?when) his vehicle became bogged down in sand. He told journalists that 1,500 Libyans were fighting on Mr Goukouni's side among with 3,000 "mercenaries," including recruits from Algeria, Sudan, Nigeria, Niger and the Central African Republic.

The prisoner was said to have been born in 1964 at Al Fugige, 135 kilometres (85 miles) from Sabhah in southern Libya.

Libyan POW Interviewed

JN180603 Khartoum SUNA in English 1740 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Ndjamena, July 17 (SUNA) The Libyan prisoner of war (POW) Mas'ud Baghdadi Muhammad arrested by the Chadian National Forces [FANT] near Oum Chalouba said 1,500 Libyans and 3,000 from other nationalities fought beside the rebels against Habre's government.

The Libyan POW revealed names of military leaders and said a Chadian called Muhammad Yahya (Bjg) Ash was the commander of the operations against Ndjamena's legal government. Baghdadi said that among the Libyan officers who took part in the clashes are (ones) whom he recognizes their first names like 'Abd ar-Rahman Abu Bakr, Idris, and Muhammad Salih.

The POW explained that he had been the No 4 character in Faya-Largeau, pointing out that those who are senior than him are Muhammad 'Abd al-Jalil, Yusuf 'Abd al-'Aziz and [word indistinct] mentioning his family name. He said that he does not

know their military ranks, because they have come from different Libyan parts.

Baghdadi confirmed that the tanks are driven by Libyans and Chadians..

Answering questions of making sure if he is really Libyan citizen, he said that he was born in 1964 at Fajij area, 130 km to south of Sabhah. The Libyan prisoner Baghdadi mentioned that he worked in the Libyan intelligence contingent, and joined the regular army before three years.

Baghdad added that, he used to have 130 dinar per month. But he said that, he did not have his salary after he entered Libya.

Questioned about his identification card, he said that they ordered him to leave any documents papers in Libya before leaving it. The Libyan POW said they were strictly warned against being held captives and revealing their Libyan nationality.

Libyan officials, he said, told us that the war was meant to liberate Chad from France domination.

Baghdadi said he refused many times to take part in the fighting.

He added that he was arrested in (Kalait) after he had a shower and even before he could put on his military uniform. The POW said he was attempted to escape with some Chadians but their car broke and he was captured. He stated that he has tried to deny his nationality and assume he was a Chadian but he found it impossible. Baghdadi explained that he wants to return to his country but he is afraid and prefers to stay in Chad.

In response to a question about whether he had ever met Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and what will he say to him if he meets him, Baghdadi announced that he will tell Al-Qadhdhafi to stop bloodshedding in Chad..

GUNT Seeks Foreign Withdrawal

OW180232 Hong Kong AFP in English 0220 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Lome, Togo, July 18 (AFP) — Foreign troops should leave Chad unconditionally and at once, the rebel radio station run by ex-President Goukouni Oueddei in northern Chad said in a broadcast heard here Sunday night.

The station said the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) should do all in its power to bring about such a withdrawal. In that way, Mr Goukouni's Transitional Government of National Union (GUNT) could avoid being forced to call on its friends, the radio said. GUNT had to date refrained from asking for help, aware that such aid risked turning the Chadian conflict into a conflict of world dimensions.

The people of the country were currently under attack by international imperialism, with the spearhead provided by Zairian soldiers equipped with advanced weapons from the United States and France, the radio said.

In a separate communique, the radio said GUNT noted with satisfaction the call by the OAU Bureau for a ceasefire and national reconciliation in Chad. It said GUNT had complete confidence in the OAU and remained fully ready, as in the past, to cooperate with it in finding a fair and lasting peace settlement.

In Algiers, GUNT's foreign minister, Mahamat Nour Adam Barka,repeated that the Goukouni side was ready for dialogue and trusted the OAU Bureau decisions. But he impugned the good faith of Mr Goukouni's successor in Ndjamena, saying Hissein Habre had always shown opposition to national reconciliation. If there was an impasse, GUNT would fight on to the end, Mr Barka warned. He denied that the GUNT army had any mercenaries, but alleged that an armoured column crewed by Sudanese, Egyptians and Israelis [words indistinct] in eastern Chad in July 10 on behalf of Mr Habre.

Bardai on Zairian Troops

AB170845 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] [Words indistinct] in fact, contrary to the reports by Western media, Zairian soldiers and other mercenaries hidden among them did not come to Chad as tourists; and we will not be taken in by the allegation that those foreign troops are only charged with defending the airport in Ndjamena and its immediate surroundings. In light of the new developments and in view of the fact that the puppet forces of the FAN were crushed during the earlier fighting in the north, we can say with absolute certainty that the troops of the National Liberation Army [ANL] are no longer confronted by Chadians. They are instead fighting a foreign army of invasion in the pay of U.S.-French imperialism.

In this connection, the order given by the ANL chief of staff to carry out a strategic pullout from Abeche is fully justified. Stepping back in order to allow a better takeoff was the objective and the watchword of the revolutionary forces of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] in the capital of Ouaddai Region. The enemy exploited the situation abusively and began crowing before they could win the battle.

However, if we consider the whole situation, we see that the victory is on the side of our forces because we now occupy territory that was once in the hands of the enemy.

In any case, (?given) the presence of the Zairian troops and other legionnaires fighting alongside the FAN, the decision taken by the staff of the ANL will make it possible to reassess the strength of the enemy troops and to design and think through a new strategy.

Government Responds to OAU Communique

JN151555 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 15 Jul (SUNA) — Soumaila Mahamat, commissioner of the Chadian President's Office for Information and official spokesman for the Chadian Government, has that his country favors the reactivation of the special committee to discuss the dispute between Chad and Libya.

The minister said here today that his country will oppose any trend which downplays Libya's acts of aggression or gives the impression that the Chadian problem is essentially an internal one. He noted that such a view would reflect neither the truth nor the reality of the situation. The minister added that Libya is the political motivator of all wars in Chad. He repeated that Libya has activated rebels against a whole series of governments in Chad.

Soumaila Mahamat, official spokesman of the Chadian Government, appealed to the OAU and to all countries in Africa which love peace and freedom to support the people and government of Chad in their efforts to face the danger which threatens their country.

The minister expressed hope that the OAU would take as clear a stand at the meeting of the Bureau of the 19th OAU summit, which opened in Addis Ababa today, as it did at the last summit meeting, and that it would assert its position on reactivating the special committee.

The minister added that Chadian Government forces are in full control of eastern Chad and that mopping up operations are still in progress. He said that his government has taken all necessary measures to stop the advance of the rebels and to drive them back as far as possible so as to keep all strategic points under the control of the government forces.

National Integrity 'Not Negotiable'

AB171150 Paris AFP in English 1134 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Ndjamena, July 17 (AFP) — The Chadian Government said today that "reconciliation" urged yesterday by the Organisation of African Unity to end the latest round of Chad's civil war could only come about if Libyan "aggression" ended.

Information Minister Soumaila Mahamat also indicated that Hissein Habre's government would only talk with its antagonist, former President Goukouni Oueddei, if he were part of a Libyan delegation in direct negotiations.

Earlier the authorities here produced a man said to be a Libyan signals corporal captured a week ago fighting on Mr Goukouni's side.

Mr Mahamat said that the Ndjamena government welcomed the OAU's call for an end to foreign interference and a ceasefire in Chad. But he added that the OAU's ad hoc committee on differences between Libya and Chad should be reactivated "to end Libya's aggression against Chad in a peaceful fashion."

Reading a government communique, Mr Mahamat said that "a ceasefire and national reconciliation can have no chance of success in the light of past experience unless Libyan aggression is halted and the ad hoc committee reactivated." Mr Mahamat said the Habre administration wanted to talk directly with Libya, because Mr Goukouni's Transitional Government of National Union "is linked structurally with Libya."

"If the ad hoc committee bring Libya and Chad round a table there can be reconciliation," Mr. Mahamat said, but in a reference to Libya's 1973 occupation of the supposedly mineral rich Aozou Strip on the border between the two countries, he added that "the integrity of Chad" was not negotiable.

Mr Goukouni's claim to be still the legitimate president of Chad despite his ousting from Ndjamena by Mr Habre in June 1981 is backed by Libya. Mr Habre's regime is recognised by the OAU and has been aided notably by France, which sent weapons, and Zaire, which sent troops in the latest round of fighting.

GUNT on OAU Statement

AB180900 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Communique issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) on 17 July 1983 in Bardai]

[Text] The GUNT notes with satisfaction the contents of the resolutions adopted by the OAU Bureau, and hails the commendable and relentless efforts being made by the organization to promote the advent of peace in Chad. The GUNT, which is deeply attached to the legitimate aspirations of its people for peace, security, and unity, is open to all initiatives likely to bring peace and unity to Chad. For this reason, the GUNT has full confidence in the OAU and (?will contribute) to all attempts that might ensure that its appeal is fulfilled. It further reiterates its willingness — already pledged on several occasions — to cooperate with the organization within the framework of its resolutions in order to find a just and lasting solution to Chad's internal conflict. It will continue to mobilize all its energy toward the definitive establishment of peace, unity, and security, not only in Chad, but in the entire region as well.

The GUNT hopes, therefore, that the present initiative, unlike the previous ones, will not see OAU member states giving up in the face of Chad's real problems. Otherwise, the GUNT pledges its (?determination to) carry through with its struggle against colonialism, neocolonialism, and imperialism [words indistinct] its historic march to peace, unity, and democracy.

Issued in Bardai on 17 July 1983.

CONGO

Communique Issued on Situation in Chad

AB171105 Paris AFP in French 1016 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Brazzaville, 17 Jul (AFP) — The current developments in Chad are a "result of imperialism's constant will to maintain its hold" on that country "in order to better exploit it." The People's Republic of the Congo expressed this view in a communique issued by its Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Saturday.

According to the communique, this factor accounts for "the interference of Western powers." Such "interference is not aimed

at helping the Chadian people to recover peace, but is rather aimed at diverting them from their goal of nation building" through continued fighting.

"The current situation in Chad is a consequence of the OAU's incoherent action," the communique noted, adding that the Congo "strongly condemns" all intervention in Chad by both non-African and African forces.

Congo appeals to the Chadian people to strengthen their unity in the face of the neocolonial conspiracy and calls on African states to demonstrate active solidarity with these people.

In conclusion, the communique states that the People's Republic of the Congo supports the efforts being made by the current chairman of the OAU to find an African solution to the Chadian problem and it pledges the solidarity of the Congolese people with those of Chad against "imperialist maneuvers."

GHANA

Eight Arrested for 19 June Coup Attempt

AB152050 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] The Ministry of the Interior has announced that the following persons have been placed in custody pending investigations into allegations against them in connection with the abortive attempt of 19 June. They are: E.D. Kom, John Kugblenu, Tommy Thompson, Sam Okudzeto, Obeng Manu, Appiah-Menkah, Oduro-Kwarteng, and Mike Ajayi. They are also being questioned in respect of offenses under Section 4 of PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] Law 24. The statement added that Mr Ebo Holdbrook-Smith was among those placed in custody but he has since been released after questioning.

LIBERIA

Sierra Leonian Refugees Begin Returning Home

AB161250 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1200 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] The over 4,000 Sierra Leonian refugees who crossed into Liberia recently because of an alleged bush-devil [as heard] invasion have begun returning home. According to Immigration Commissioner Edwin J. Taye, about 350 have already left for Sierra Leone. Commissioner Taye further stated that although many of them have expressed their wishes to return, some are still hesitant in making an about-face because of their involvement in the fighting.

NIGERIA

Shagari Receives Message From Mobutu on Chad

AB160955 Lagos NAN in English 0930 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Lagos, July 15 (NAN) — President Shehu Shagari today in Lagos received a special message on the situation in Chad from his Zairian counterpart, President Mobutu Sese Seko.

The messaage was delivered on behalf of the Zairian president by his commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation, Mr. Kamanda wa Kamanda.

President Shagari and the Zairian commissioner reviewed developments in Chad where a contingent of Zairian troops is helping the government of President Hissein Habre to ward off rebel troops of Goukouni Oueddei. They also discussed efforts by the OAU to resolve the conflict in Chad.

Further Coverage of General Election Campaign

Shagari Appeals for Peace

AB151150 Lagos NAN in English 1130 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Abeokuta, July 15 (NAN) — President Shehu Shagari yesterday in Abeokuta appealed to traditional rulers, religious leaders and well-meaning Nigerians to ensure that the current electioneering campaigns and the elections were conducted peacefully.

Addressing a rally, President Shagari also enjoined "all men of goodwill," particularly in Ogun, to appeal to those, he said, who were out to cause trouble and confusion to "please save this country." President Shagari, seeking re-election, declared "don't allow them to confuse you, because, they have already lost hope of winning the elections and now they want everything to go to pieces."

President Shagari stated that members of the PPA [Progressive People's Alliance] had no "iota of love" for the country because, he said, they had chosen, in all their utterances, to run down the country. He alleged that all the negative reports about Nigeria in the foreign media emanated from the "so-called progressives."

President Shagari urged the people to ensure that an NPN [National Party of Nigeria] government was voted into power in the state.

President Shagari said that the only way to maintain democracy in the country was to uphold the tenets of the rule of law and respect the decisions of the courts and the order of the law enforcement agencies. He said that it was in accordance with NPN's respect for the rule of law and police orders that he put off his earlier visit to the state. President Shagari also announced that he had postponed his campaign tour of Ogbomoso scheduled for today following the 14-day ban on political rallies in the town, but gave the assurance that he would be in the town as soon as the ban was lifted.

He said that, if voted into power, the NPN would introduce free and functional education in the state and gave the assurance that the open university would take off next academic year.

Also speaking at the rally, the vice president, Dr. Alex Ekwueme, said that Nigeria could achieve greatness if all its citizens could work together in peace and harmony.

He commended the people for turning out at the rally in large numbers.

The chairman of the party in Ogun, Chief Tunde Oshunrinde, condemned the deposition of Obas in the state and gave an assurance that, if voted into power, "we shall restore and guard

jealously, the position of our traditional rulers." He said that members of the party were working very hard to "deliver the state to the NPN."

A correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) at the rally reports that Chief Soji Odunjo was not presented as the party's gubernatorial candidate for the state. A Lagos high court had restrained the NPN from presenting Chief Odunjo as the candidate.

Plateau State Bans Rallies
AB151655 Lagos NAN in English 1646 GMT 15 Jul 83

[By reporter Tony Nwanosike]

[Text] Jos, July 14 (NAN) — Plateau police has banned political processions, assemblies and meetings in Lafiya and Keffi senatorial districts of the state for one week.

The state police commissioner, Alhaji Yusuf Dari, said in a statement today in Jos that the action was necessary because of the political clashes last week-end in Lafiya in which lives were lost and property worth thousands of naira was destroyed.

Alhaji Yusuf said that political violence had also been reported in Gura, Sabon-Gida, Uke and Agyaragu in Keffi and Lafiya senatorial districts resulting in wanton destruction of properties. He warned that any violation of the order would be seriously dealt with.

Meanwhile, the state government has appointed a judicial commission of inquiry into the violent clashes in the two local government areas of the state. The commission, which is headed by a high court judge, Mr B.K. Azinge, is to investigate and establish the remote and immediate causes of the disturbances. He would also identify individuals or groups connected with the ascertain [as received] the number of lives lost and the extent of damage done to property and recommend ways of avoiding a re-occurrence.

Others members of the commission include Alhaji Ahmadu Zakari, Rev. Musa Bawa, and Mr Maxwell Yakubu.

The commission is expected to submit its report to state government within four weeks.

AFP on Election Violence
AB160815 Paris AFP in English 0739 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Lagos, July 16 (AFP) — Twenty people have been arrested following a clash between supporters of two rival political parties in which two persons were killed and many others injured at Bida in northern Nigeria [words indistinct] Niger State.

State Police Commissioner Raheem Laleye said Friday that trouble started when the Moslem traditional ruler of the town, the "Ftsu Nupe" Alhaji Sanda Ndayako, was returning from the mosque and was asked to shout party slogans by some party supporters. Reports said that four party vehicles were burnt in the clash, which later spread to two neighbouring towns, Agaie and Kataregi. Political activities have been banned for two weeks in Bida.

The Bida clash was the third major political incident in Nigeria within two weeks.

Last Sunday violence erupted at Lafiya, northern Plateau State, and at least seven people were killed and hundreds of others injured. Property worth thousands of naira was damaged.

Political disturbances in western Oyo State's Modakeke town on July 7 left at least six persons dead. The state police command has slapped a 14-day ban on political activities there.

About 20 Nigerians have so far lost their lives since the beginning of the election campaigns three months ago. The country's [word indistinct] general elections are barely three weeks ahead.

SENEGAL

Guinea-Bissau, Malian Ministers Arrive, Comment
AB151105 Dakar Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Samba Lamine Mane, foreign minister of Guinea-Bissau, and Alioune Blondin Beye, the foreign minister of Mali, arrived in Dakar yesterday evening and were received by Moustapha Niasse, Senegalese minister of state for foreign affairs. The two ministers made the following statements to Tidiane Barry:

[Begin recording] [Lamine Mane] As you know, it is the policy of Guinea-Bissau to recognize states. What is now happening in Chad is an internal affair. Given the fact that this war has been going on for a long time now, we believe that the Chadian problem should be settled through dialogue. We are also of the opinion that no foreign forces should interfere in the Chadian problem.

[Reporter] Does the Government of Guinea-Bissau support any of the parties in the conflict?

[Lamine Mane] Concerning your question [words indistinct]. We believe that this fratricidal war should be stopped. [Passage indistinct] [end recording]

[Begin recording] [Beye] I am here to deliver a message from President Moussa Traore of Mali to His Excellency President Abdou Diouf.

[Reporter] Could you tell me something about the content of this message?

[Beye] First of all, I should like to thank my brother and friend, the minister of state, Moustapha Niasse, who kindly received me on my arrival. Tomorrow, I shall have the honor to deliver the message to the president of the republic. But, as you might guess, the message is reserved for the sole addressee. Before my departure, I will perhaps have the opportunity to inform the press about the message. I cannot do this before delivering it to the addressee.

[Reporter] Has Mali adopted clear positions concerning the conflicts currently afflicting the African Continent?

[Beye] Mali's positions are identical to those unanimously expressed by Africa at the recent meeting in Addis Ababa. On that occasion, the Malian head of state had the opportunity to affirm his country's positions — which agreed with those of his colleagues. The meeting examined all the burning issues in Africa, with particular emphasis on the most crucial ones — such as Western Sahara, Chad, and southern Africa. The positions adopted by Africa on all these questions are well known, and Mali's stands are identical to these in every respect.

[Reporter] Concerning the Chadian crisis specifically, how does Mali view the French military aid to Hissein Habre's forces?

[Beye] As you know, one of the cardinal principles of Mali's foreign policy is noninterference in the internal affairs of brother states. As far as military intervention or bilateral defense or military agreements are concerned, Mali has no to express — either positive or negative — because this would amount to interference in that country's internal affairs. The leaders of that country are the only ones who may decide whether or not to call on a foreign power or to conclude a military agreement. This responsibility lies solely with the Chadian people and their leaders.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, we know that you are a candidate for the post of OAU secretary general. Are you prepared to confirm your candidacy during the forthcoming summit meeting in Conakry?

[Beye] As you know, this a matter which [words indistinct]. Mali, its people, and its leaders must make their decision on this matter alone. The Malian people and their leaders will assume their responsibility when the time comes. [end recording]

Diouf Receives Malian Envoy

AB161030 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Excerpt] The head of state today granted an audience to the visiting Japanese delegation led by Mr (Yozo Ishikawa), the Japanese deputy minister of foreign affairs. Foreign Minister Moustapha Niasse and Japanese Ambassador Chiyuki Hiraoka were also present at the audience.

The head of state held a second audience today, receiving Alioune Blondin Beye, the Malian minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation who brought a personal message from Malian President Moussa Traore. Foreign Minister Moustapha Niasse and Malian Ambassador Mamadou Diawara also were present at the audience.

ANGOLA

General Amnesty Declared For UNITA, FNLA

PA170420 Paris AFP in English 0401 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Lusaka, July 18 (AFP) — The Angolan Government has declared a general amnesty for all UNITA and FNLA guerrillas in and outside that country, according to a top Angolan official visiting Zambia. Celestino Shinhama of the Central Committee of the ruling MPLA (People's Liberation Movement) party made the announcement at a press conference in Solwezi in the northwest ern province of Zambia on Saturday.

Mr Shinhama, who is governor for neighbouring Moxico Province, said his government was ready to receive "with open hands any dissident who returns to Angola, be it UNITA or FNLA rebels. "We have extended invitations to all Angolan nationals outside our MPLA so that we unite and work together in the reconstruction of the country," he said, according to the official Zambian news agency ZANA. Mr Shinhama disclosed that former commanders of the FNLA had surrendered their guns and had been rehabilitated without any harrassment. "Any dissident who decides to come back to Angola will be received with open hands. It is the wish of the MPLA government to have all her people within the country," he said.

Mr Shinhama arrived in Solwezi on Wednesday at the head of an eight-man delegation to mobilise more than 10,000 Angolan refugees at the Maheba settlement camp to return to Angola.

He said the Angolan Government would soon approach international organisations for assistance in persuading refugees in Zambia to return to Angola should his delegation fail to convince them.

UNITA Announces Capture of MPLA Officer

LD151342 Lisbon in Portuguese to Europe 1230 GMT 15 Jul 83

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] *O Dia* said in a frontpage report today that UNITA guerrillas in Angola are holding the chief of staff of the MPLA's 7th Military Region. His name is Jose Joaquim Gaspar Junior. The daily said that UNITA has also shot down a helicopter crewed by Cubans.

UNITA Radio Reports 16-30 June Operations

MB151452 Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 15 Jul 83

["Report on the country's political and military situation between 16 and 30 June" — date not given]

[Text] The following are the main actions carried out by UNITA forces between 16 and 30 June 1983:

Moxico Province: On 16 June 1983, a total of 72 civilians and 10 armed members of the People's Defense Organization [ODP] from the enemy post at (Sacassango) surrendered to our forces.

On 29 June 1983, UNITA forces attacked an enemy column between Luena and (Calapo), killing 27 soldiers of the Popular Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] and destroying 2 Urals, 3 Stars, 1 Kraz, 1 Land-Rover, and 1 BTR. All the equipment was burned, together with the vehicles.

On 30 June 1983, UNITA forces attacked the enemy position at the bridge over the Lovua River on the road between (Luau) and Cazombo. A total of 13 FAPLA traitors were killed, and 18 weapons were captured. The bridge was totally destroyed.

Bie Province: On 17 June 1983, UNITA forces took the Cangala enemy barracks by storm. The barracks were situated on the paved road between Bie and Huambo, Bie-Chinguar region. A total of 19 FAPLA traitors and 2 Cubans were killed. UNITA forces captured 25 personal weapons, 1 82-mm mortar, 1 B-10 cannon, 1 Honda engine, and 2 field radios before destroying all installations in the vicinity.

Huambo Province: On 16 June 1983, UNITA forces stormed the enemy position at (Vale do Cane). Our forces killed 25 FAPLA traitors and 2 engineering experts of Portuguese nationality. A total of 131 automatic weapons, 40 boxes of antipersonnel mines, 850 assorted shells, 2 radio transmitters of German manufacture, and 1,064,878 kwanzas were captured. The bridge over the Queve River was destroyed. UNITA forces captured 7 FAPLA soldiers and released 6,500 civilians.

Malange Province: On 20 June 1983, UNITA forces attacked an enemy motorized column between Cucumbi and Quitapa. As a result, nine vehicles were destroyed, while 21 FAPLA traitors and 3 Cuban mercenaries were killed. A total of 32 automatic weapons, 1 15.5-mm antiaircraft machinegun, 2 boxes with RPG-7 shells, and 2 Racal Sychro-30 radio transmitters were captured.

Cuanza Norte Province: On 19 June 1983, 11 FAPLA traitors and 1 Cuban mercenary were killed, and 1 GAZ-66 vehicle was destroyed when a mine laid by UNITA forces on the Calulo-Munenga road exploded.

Cuanza Sul Province: On 16 June 1983, UNITA forces staged an ambush on the road between Quibala and (Uakukungo), Cela region, leaving 32 dead, including 4 state security officials and 4 Cuban mercenaries. A total of 16 AK's, 1 82-mm mortar, 1 RPG-7, 1 75-mm cannon, and assorted documents were captured. Our forces destroyed eight vehicles. An enemy FAPLA battalion, reinforced by a platoon of Cuban mercenaries, was attacked on the same day in the area between the (Mbuim) River and Luati Calulo. A total of 31 FAPLA traitors and 5 Cuban mercenaries were killed. Our forces captured 15 AK's, 4 Russian Mausers, 3 12.7-mm machineguns, 2RPG-7's, 1 bazooka, 1 14.5-mm antiaircraft machinegun, 1 122-mm rocket launcher, 2 boxes of ammunition for 7.62-mm weapons, and large quantities of medicine. Six members of SWAPO were also killed during this

action. A FAPLA officer by the name of (Pedro Ernesto) was captured.

On 16 June 1983, 93 civilians were released from the (Ambande) town prison. On the same day, UNITA forces attacked and destroyed one Berliet vehicle, registration No CDS-01-10, and one Scania vehicle, registration No ALD-33-41, on the road linking Luanda to Huambo, in the (Kutoxi-Uakukungo) area. A total of 16 FAPLA traitors and 3 Cuban mercenaries were killed. Our forces captured 22 AK's, 3 RPD's, 4 RPK's, 2 RPG-7's, 82 RPG-7 shells, and 42,837,526 kwanzas.

On 22, 23, and 24 June 1983, UNITA forces carried out the following operations in the North Expansion [Expansao Norte] area:

1. An attack against an enemy motorized column north of Calulo, (Liquemba) area.

2. An attack on and occupation of Quissongo Commune, (Libolo) area.

As a result, a total of 94 FAPLA traitors and 12 Cuban mercenaries were killed. Hundreds of personal weapons and entire sets of artillery were captured. A total of 13 vehicles were destroyed, and 531 civilians were released.

On 26 June 1983, units of the glorious Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] attacked a motorized column 28 km from Quibala, which resulted in the destruction of six vehicles and one BTR. A total of 18 FAPLA traitors and 3 Cuban mercenaries were killed.

Lubango Province: On 26 June 1983, UNITA forces launched a counterattack against an enemy battalion of the 19th Brigade south of Mulondo. A total of 26 FAPLA lackeys and 6 Cuban mercenaries were killed. Our forces captured 41 personal weapons, 4 RPG-7's, 1 82-mm mortar, 1 75-mm cannon, 1 122-mm rocket launcher, and destroyed 3 URAL's, 1 Kraz, and 1 Zil.

During the period 16-30 June 1983 we suffered 18 dead and 42 wounded.

The fatherland is not to be questioned, it is to be defended.

Monteiro is our example against surrender.

Kafundanga is an example to follow.

The struggle triumphs, and, only united around Comrade General Savimbi, president and supreme commander of the FALA, will we win.

LESOTHO

Two New Ministers Take Oath of Office

MB131250 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 13 Jul 83

[Text] Two new ministers were sworn in by the honorable acting chief justice, Mr Justice P.M. Mofokeng, before His Majesty Mothlothlehi Moshoeshoe II and the prime minister, the Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, at the royal palace in Maseru this morning. They are Mr Desmond Tsepo Sixishe, who has been appointed minister of information and broadcasting, and Mr (Nasinile Nkuwatsane), new minister of state for rural development.

The minister of state, Mr Legoana Jonathan, has been elevated to Cabinet level and appointed minister of works. He succeeds Mr J.C. Masithela, who is retiring from the Cabinet but who will retain his seat in Parliament. Mr Legoana is being succeeded by Mr (Nasinile Nkuwatsane) as minister of state.

Present at the ceremony were the Cabinet ministers, judges of the high court, the chairman of the Public Service Commission, and senior civil servants.

MALAWI

Malawi, Zambian Bank Officials Meet in Lilongwe

MB131639 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 13 Jul 83

[Text] Officials of the Bank of Zambia and the Reserve Bank of Malawi met in Lilongwe on Monday and yesterday to discuss bilateral issues relating to monetary, financial, and payments arrangements.

A press release issued today by the Reserve Bank of Malawi said the two central banks have been specifically urged to find ways of streamlining and simplifying bilateral payments between the two countries. It said the discussions have been successfully concluded and that it is expected arrangement for streamlining and simplifying bilateral payments between Zambia and Malawi will become effective by the 20th of this month.

The meeting follows a recommendation by the first meeting of Malawi-Zambia Permanent Commission of Cooperation, which was held in Lusaka in February this year. The protocol establishing the Malawi-Zambia Permanent Commission of Cooperation was signed by His Excellency the Life President Ngwazi Dr Kamuzu Banda, and President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia during Dr Kaunda's state visit to Malawi last year.

MOZAMBIQUE

Trial Planned for Illegal Plane Landing

MB160646 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] In the coming days a Mozambique court will try the case of the plane registered in South Africa which landed illegally at the northen town of Nampula. At the time of the landing, the plane, which is registered in Durban, was carrying six people of various nationalities — South African, British, and French.

The Mozambique information agency, AIM, has reported that the aircraft came from Moroni in the Comoros Islands. At the

time, its pilot asked for permission to land in Nampula. This request was refused by the Mozambique air control authorities. Despite the refusal, the pilot decided to land, claiming at Nampula that he had run short of fuel. An inspection of the aircraft demonstrated that the reason given in the request to land was false. The aircraft and its passengers have been detained in Nampula for investigations. The court will try the case in accordance with the usual judical rules in such situations. Consular officials of the French and British Embassies in Maputo are already aware of the incident.

Several Foreigners Told To Leave Country

MB141236 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 14 Jul 83

[Text] Several foreigners have been given between 7 and 30 days to leave Mozambique after being found to be living illegally in the country. The foreigners — three Portuguese nationals and one Mauritian — were detected during identity checks as part of the campaign to engage the unemployed in productive work. A report from the Maputo daily *Noticias* said that one of the foreigners, a Portuguese national, (Alberto Saraiva de Faria), recently tried to obtain a resident's permit illegally. The Mauritian, (Jean Silvio Rose), has been in Mozambique illegally since May last year.

NAMIBIA

Bomb Damages Windhoek Gas Station; No Injuries

MB180725 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0720 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Windhoek, July 18, SAPA — A powerful bomb containing about two kg of explosives rocked Windhoek's city centre early today. No one was injured in the blast which occurred at about 6:50 A.M.

A police spokesman said the bomb had been wedged between a petrol pump and a steel column supporting the iron canopy over the forecourt of a service station.

The blast completely destroyed a petrol pump and badly damaged others, ripping out showroom windows and scattering glass over a wide area. Damage was estimated at about R60,000.

Police at the scene said they were investigating sabotage but declined to say who had been responsible. Early this morning explosives experts were still combing through the debris while police had cordoned off the area to the public.

Although the motive for today's blast was still unclear, observers pointed out that the sabotage coincided with legislation to be promulgated today by the administrator-general of SWA/Namibia.

The purpose of the council is to formulate a constitutional dispensation to serve the territory in the interim period until plans for its independence could be implemented with international approval.

Today's bomb explosion was the first incident of urban terrorism in SWA/Namibia since 1978 when two bombs went off in short succession in Windhoek immediately before the week-long nationwide elections held at the beginning of December that year. Later that month a bomb exploded in a crowded restaurant in the popular coastal resort Swakopmund, injuring several holiday makers and residents of the town.

About two years ago an attempt was made to blow up the Simon de Witt Bridge at the northern entrance to Windhoek. Little damage was caused and no one was injured.

Van Niekerk Announces State Council Chiefs

MB170658 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] The administrator-general of South-West Africa, Dr Willie van Niekerk, has announced the names of the chairman and vice chairman of the Council of State. The Chairman is the chief justice of Transkei, Mr Justice (J.J.F. Geefe), who has been appointed acting justice of appeal from the 1st of next month. The Vice Chairman is the president of the Northern Transvaal Regional Magistrate's Court Mr (W.F. Kruger).

SOUTH AFRICA

Talks on 6 Detained in Mozambique Deadlocked

MB151004 Johannesburg Rand Daily Mail in English 15 Jul 83 p 1

[*Mail* reporters]

[Excerpts] Negotiations between four countries over the fate of six passengers — including two South Africans — held for 19 days by Mozambique after their plane landed to refuel at Nampula, reached deadlock last night.

Diplomats from South Africa, France and Britain wrangled all day yesterday as they tried to cajole Mozambique into releasing the men, who were flying from the Comoros Islands to Durban.

Last night, there was still no official comment from Maputo as Mr Jose Luis Cabaco, the minister of information and the only government source authorised to speak on the matter, could not be contacted. But other sources in the Mozambican capital confirmed that the aircraft was still being "retained" at Nampula, in the north of the country. There was no word about the fate of the men. They are Mr David Tooch, of Glenmore, Durban; Mr Lucas Nel, formerly of White River and now living in the Comoros; Mr Clive Costello, a Briton living in South Africa and pilot of the plane; and three Frenchmen, Mr Alain le Behan, Mr J. Havard and Mr J. Auger. The *Rand Daily Mail* has played a central role in the negotiations, acting as a conduit for messages between the British and French. On Wednesday night, the *Mail* informed the French and British governments their subjects were being held.

It was disclosed in Pretoria yesterday that the South African Government had been negotiating for the release of the men for

17 days. The British Government had not been informed and the French Embassy in Maputo had only heard "rumours" which they had not acted upon as they were unaware French nationals were involved.

A Foreign Affairs spokesman in Pretoria said the department had been informed of the detention of the men and their plane — a Beechcraft Baron, with callsign ZS-PTE — on June 27, the day after they landed. "We thought the French Embassy in Maputo knew," she said.

Trial Still Unconfirmed

MB181010 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 0830 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] The Department of Foreign Affairs and Information has not yet been able to confirm reports from Mozambique that two South Africans will appear in court in Maputo on Wednesday on charges of violating Mozambique's airspace and landing in Nampula in the north of the country without permission. A spokesman for the department said in Pretoria that inquiries are being made at a high level, but up to now the Mozambique authorities have not confirmed that the men will appear in court on Wednesday.

According to the reports, Mr Lucas Nel of the Comoro Islands and Mr David Tooch of Durban have also been charged with unauthorized landing after their appeal was denied.

Border Measures With Lesotho To Intensify

MB151732 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs and information, Mr Pik Botha, says the South African Government has no alternative but to intensify border control measures between South Africa and Lesotho.

Mr Botha was reacting to inquiries by the news media and confirmed incidents which were aggravating, what he termed, the unsatisfactory situation at present existing between the two countries.

Among the latest incidents was the case of a members of the South African Police stationed at Ladybrand, Warrant Officer (D.T. Sellow), who had been detained by the Lesotho security police on the 12 June. Warrant Officer (Sellow), he said, was well known in Lesotho and for the last 3 years had been coaching professional soccer at Mafeteng. He had not been involved in any activities that could have been harmful to Lesotho, but it had now come to South Africa's notice that he was being maltreated by the Lesotho security police to force him to make untrue statements intended to embarrass South Africa.

South Africa had also protested against the illegal action of two members of the Lesotho paramilitary police force. One of the men was being detained in South Africa.

Shots Fired at Ciskeian Minister's House

MB151749 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1745 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Zwelitsha, July 15, SAPA — Shots were fired at the house of the Ciskei foreign minister, Mr B.N. Pityi, in the ministerial residential area of Zwelitsha early today.

Mr Pityi, President Lennox Sebe's right-hand man, said the shots were fired at about 12.40 am, "concentrated on my bedroom."

When asked what the motive might have been, Mr Pityi said he did not know, as he had no enemies.

Fourteen bullet holes were found in the wall of the house. Most of the shots were above the bedroom window, but three went through the window into his bedroom.

The Ciskei vice-president, the Rev M.M. Xaba, said it showed a "bad element" was operating in the Ciskei.

Ciskei President Lennox cut short a visit to Israel and returned home today, but it could not be confirmed whether his return had anything to do with the shooting.

Ciskei Announces Security Department Changes

MB161255 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1230 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Ciskei President Dr L.L. Sebe has announced that Ciskei's Department of State Security has been completely restructured. He was speaking at a news conference at Zwelitsha.

He said the police force, the prison service, and the traffic section will fall under the minister of justice. The defense force, the special task force, and the Air Force will be controlled by a newly established Ministry of Defense under the deputy minister. As a result of the new arrangements, Ciskei's Central Intelligence Service will in the future be called Ciskeian National Intelligence Service and will come under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Defense.

Army Chief's Powers Reduced

MB170500 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] The head of Ciskei's armed forces, Charles Sebe, has effectively been stripped of many of his wide-ranging powers. This has been announced at a news conference in Zwelitsha today by Ciskei President Lennox Sebe.

Sebe said Charles Sebe would in future be head of only a newly formed National Intelligence Service [NIS]. He said the NIS would have no executive powers and no powers of arrest. The Ciskei head has denied, however, that the former security head has been demoted.

Lennox Sebe has also announced that the second-in-charge of the Ciskei security forces, (N. Thamsanqa), and three of his officers were detained 2 days ago. He was not willing to give any details of the investigation into the men's activities, as, he said, a commission of inquiry would be established.

President Denies Rumored Coup

MB170649 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] The president of Ciskei, Dr Sebe, has strongly denied rumors of an attempted coup d'etat in Ciskei. Speaking at a news conference in Zwelitsha, he went on to say that the entire Ciskeian Department of State Security had been restructured. He said a newly formed Ministry of Defense had been introduced, and that it would be run by a deputy minister of defense, whose name would be announced tomorrow.

ZAMBIA

Minister: Citizens May Not Train in RSA

MB151311 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Minister of Health Ben Kakom said that Zambia cannot allow any indigenous citizen to train in racist South Africa or to be exposed to the abhorrent policy of apartheid. Mr Kakoma said the party and its government condemned South Africa because training was education and education was utilization which would result in indoctrination.

The minister said this in Parliament in answer to a question by a member for Senanga, Linyando Mukwe, who wanted to know how much money the minister had spent in sending people abroad for specialist trained treatment ranging from 1980 to date.

In the subsequent [word indistinct], Mr McDonald Mtine for Kantanshi asked as to why the minister was stopping doctors from going to specialized training under the sponsorship of charitable organizations like Rotary clubs.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe, Ceausescu Address Stadium Rally

MB171306 Harare Domestic Service in English 1125 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] The visiting president of Romania, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, and the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, have addressed a rally at Rufaro Stadium this afternoon. The prime minister thanked Romania for the major role it played during Zimbabwe's liberation war. Comrade Ceausescu pledged Romania's continued support for Zimbabwe under the leadership of Comrade Robert Mugabe.

During his visit, Comrade Ceausescu held talks with the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe. Freedom of the city of Harare was also conferred on him by the Harare City Council.

Frontline Defense Ministers Meet 14-15 July

MB170830 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] The ministers responsible for defense and security of the People's Republic of Angola, the Republic of Botswana, the Kingdom of Lesotho, the People's Republic of Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania, the Republic of Zambia, and the Republic of Zimbabwe met at Inyanga, Zimbabwe from 14 to 15 July 1983.

A final communique issued at the end of the meeting states that the ministers discussed and examined issues of general concern pertaining to regional defense and security. They also analyzed and expressed great concern over the escalation of military attacks and the increasing support for dissidents and bandits by the South African racist and fascist minority regime, the goal of which is to destabilize the countries of the region.

The ministers agreed on the need to step up and strengthen cooperation and solidarity among southern African states in the fields of defense and security. They noted that the situation in southern Africa is highly explosive due to the grave threat resulting from the attacks by the South African racist and fascist regime, which is supported by the imperialist forces allied with it. On this, the ministers unreservedly condemned the military attacks perpetrated against the countries of the region by the South African regime. In addition, they called for the immediate withdrawal of South African troops from the People's Republic of Angola.

The defence and security ministers of the said countries of southern Africa condemned the attempt by the United States and other imperialist countries to link the issue of Namibian independence with the withdrawal of the Cuban internationalist troops from Angola. They called for the immediate implementation of UN Resolution 435 as well as the withdrawal of South African troops from Namibia.